### YORKTON

COMMERCIAL CENTRE



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#### Facts About the Town of

# Yorkton

and the

#### Fertile Farming District

of Eastern Saskatchewan in which it is situated and of which it is the

Commercial, Educational, Judicial, Lands, Police and Railway Centre

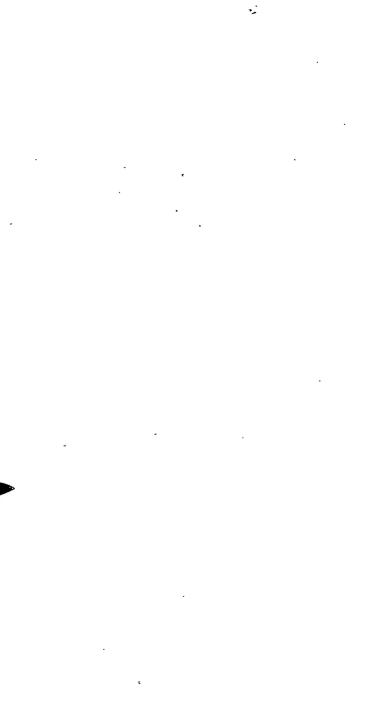


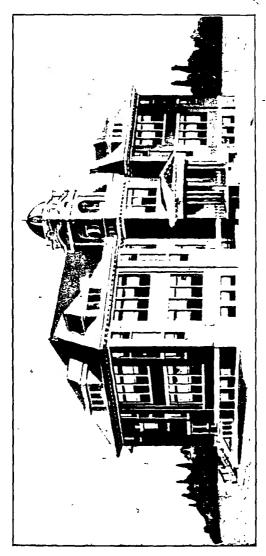
This Booklet is issued by the Yorkton District Board of Trade for the information of intending Settlers and Investors.

The information contained in it is authentic and reliable, having been very carefully compiled. Further particulars on all matters pertaining to Yorkton or District may be had at any time on application to the

Secretary Yorkton Board of Trade Yorkton - - - Sask.

Correspondence Solicited





Yorkton's \$75,000 Collegiate Institute, Among the Finest Buildings of this Class in Western Canada



## Yorkton is situated about 180 miles southeast of Sas-

katoon, 150 miles north-

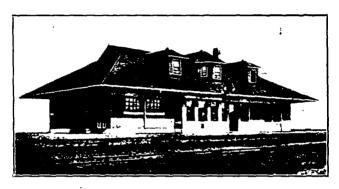
east of Regina, and 280 miles northwest of Winnipeg and is the commercial centre of Eastern Saskatchewan.

In looking at a map one can see that as a commercial centre, it is far away from all other distributing centres in Saskatchewan and it is surrounded by one of the most fertile areas of farm land in Western Can-The Canadian Pacific Railway, which passes through the town, is making this their direct line to Edmonton and the Grand Trunk Pacific (Hudson Bay Branch) now partly constructed, passes through the town and will be completed from Regina, via Yorkton, to Canora, a point on the Canadian Northern Railway thirty miles north of Yorkton, before the first day of October next.

The Canadian Northern Railway have a charter to construct a line from a point thirty miles east of Yorkton to Zealandia, a point on the Calgary-Saskatoon branch, and when this gap is completed this will be the Canadian Northern Railway's direct line between Winnipeg and Calgary. The Saskatchewan Central Railway have a charter for a line from a point at or near North Portal, on the southern boundary of the Province, in a direct line north, passing through Yorkton to a point some two hundred miles north of Yorkton.

Therefore, situated as Yorkton is, in the centre of Eastern Saskatchewan's most fertile area and being the centre of attraction for four railroads, we have no hesitation in saving that the distributing warehouses already located at Yorkton, and those which are certain to follow in their lead, will be most conveniently located to serve a larger area of well settled territory than those in any other distributing centre in Western Canada with the exception of Winnipeg.

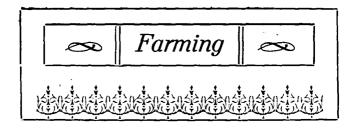
Good warehouse sites can now be procured at reasonable cost and we invite manufacturers to correspond with us.



New C.P.R. Depot Now Under Construction at Yorkton



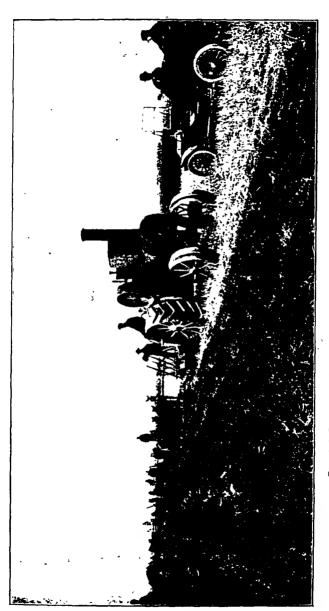
A Panoramic View of Yorkton Looking South from the Town's Northern Limits



Yorkton is known to be, if not the best, at least one of the best farming districts in the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Away back, about the year 1880, when the people in old Ontario began to realize that their sons and daughters might find an outlet for their pent-up energies in their own country and under their own flag instead of that of a foreign power, their attention was by various means drawn to Manitoba and the then Northwest Territories.

About the year mentioned, the York Farmers' Colonization Company of Toronto selected for settlement a district centering around what was a year later known as York City and which became the nucleus of a thriving settlement made up of yeomen mostly from York and adjoining counties in Ontario, and from England, Scotland and Ireland.

That the land selected by that company should be good goes without saying, as those who made the selection traveled all the way from Winnipeg and Brandon on their search for choice farming lands. They were the spies sent to view the promised land and they, in many instances, have returned to their old homes in the East, if not carrying bunches of grapes like Caleb and Joshua, carrying what appeals strongly to human nature, dollars and tales of wonderful achievements and successes as ranchers and farmers.



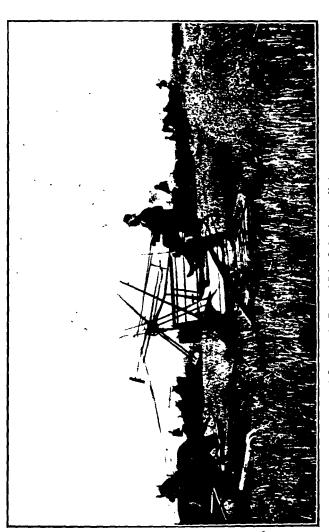
Twentieth Century Farming Methods on the Farm of Levi Beck, near Yorkton



To those unacquainted with the topography of Yorkton district it may be well to say it is not bare prairie, but resembles more, as it is seen today, some of the best portions of the East Coast of Scotland without the sea coast and ranges of mountains in the distance. Newcomers often remark that they expected to see nothing but plains and find instead streams, valleys, and beautiful groves as if Nature had laid it out as a park, and great stretches of open land awaiting the plow.

The wisdom of those of early days in selecting this as a farming district has been amply verified. The district has for years stood out pre-eminently as the greatest grain shipping point in Canada. Until the last few years, oats were the main crop. They yielded so largely—70, 80 and sometimes even 100 bushels to the acre—that farmers did not care to raise wheat yielding only 30 or 40 bushels per acre; however, with continued cultivation, it is found that wheat now ripens from eight to twelve days earlier than when the country was new and as the yield in the United States is becoming yearly less per acre and the demand for wheat is increasing, our farmers will no doubt put more acres in wheat than formerly.

Before we had markets for grain or could hire and pay for help to undertake grain-growing to any great extent, cattle and horse raising was largely engaged in. In fact, in the years 1897 to 1907, more fat cattle were shipped from Yorkton than from any station in the West. The expansion of the area under cultivation has almost eliminated the big ranches, but the number of cattle shipped yearly is still large, they being, in a measure, a by-product of the grain farmers, and are becoming yearly of better quality and better individual merit. The small bunches contain a larger percentage of high grade animals than were found in large herds. Herds today will run from ten to eighty and one hundred head on grain



A Scene on the Farm of Robt. O. Lamb, near Yorkign.

farms and they are practically raised free of cost, unless interest on the money invested and the cost of grain feed for a few months, if the animals are fattened for spring shipping when three years old, are considered.

Horses are the money-makers on the farms at present. The demand exceeds the supply to such an extent that carload upon carload of Eastern horses are required yearly to meet the demand. Not only is Eastern stock required, but large numbers of range animals are brought from the West and sell at prices which make the people newly from the East wonder. At the time of writing a reasonably good team of four-year-olds, weighing 1,400 pounds each, will easily bring from \$475 to \$550 and they will not wait long for a buyer. Those with a knowledge of horse raising can see for themselves the profit to be derived from this branch of farming.

This district is admirably adapted for sheep raising on account of the climate, particularly in the winter, and there is a diversity of summer feed. Any rough shed with a tight roof will protect them from the cold and the greater the percentage of weeds in their feed, the greater their love for it. The writer has kept sheep and found them profitable and perfectly free from all diseases.

Formerly winter feed for all kinds of stock was prairie hay, or rather slough hay. Such is not the case now. Many farmers make no provision for fodders other than oat sheaves, on which they claim their horses do better in spring and summer than if fed hay and oats. Others, again, are growing good crops of hay of different kinds. Timothy, western rye, brome and red clover produce good yields; white clover in pastures does well. Brome grass pastures cannot be beaten. Corn grows a splendid crop of feed and has yielded as much as four tons of cured sheaves



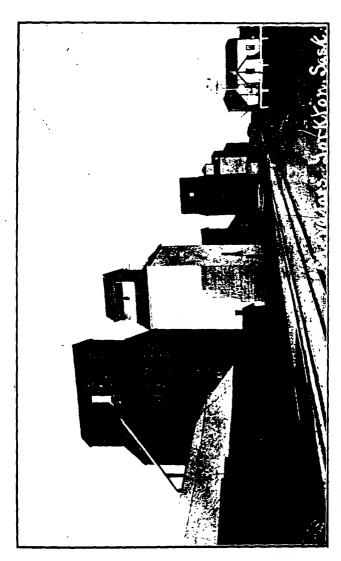
A Threshing Scene Near Yorkton. The Grain is Threshed in the Field and Hauled Direct to the Elevator

to the acre and is profitable for late summers as fall and winter feed for milch cows or other stock.

Alfalfa, although not yet grown to any extent, is, in the opinion of the writer, a legume which will shortly be in common use as a rotation crop when mixed farming becomes more general than at present. There is one peculiarity in our soil and that is, where other districts have to inoculate before clovers will grow, we can get a catch without inoculation. It is reported that the Saskatchewan Government is to offer something like \$4,000 in prizes for the best crops of alfalfa in the season of 1913 and no doubt some of these prizes will come to this district.

Years ago, and to a certain extent at present, an idea prevails in the East and South that water of good quality in sufficient quantity was unobtainable in the West. Such are not the conditions prevailing in the Yorkton or surrounding districts. The writer does not know of a farm insufficiently supplied with water, and that of first class quality, and unhesitatingly states that in twenty-five years only on one occasion has he used water which was in the least injurious, and has on his farms four wells of a depth of from fifteen to sixty feet with a plentiful supply of water perfectly free from alkali or other matter of a hurtful nature.

Another drawback was the imaginary scarcity of fuel which would occur within a few years from the first settlement of the district. This bubble burst as, with increased settlement and larger areas cultivated, the bush is protected from prairie fires and within a radius of twenty miles from Yorkton there is more firewood to be procured today than there was ten years ago. Alkali has often been mentioned as a detriment to profitable farming. I suppose it is so where it occurs over extended areas, but such is not

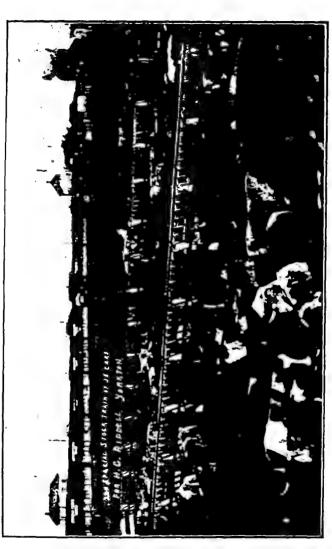


Six of Yorkton's Eight Elevators which are kept busy handling the Annual 2,000,000 Bushels of Crop

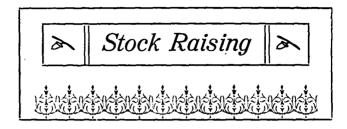
the condition here, where it is found in such small patches that it is easily counteracted and no notice is taken of it.



Residence of Robt. Sinclair, Glen Orkney Farm, near Yorkton



A Scene in the Yorkton Stock Yards just prior to the Shipment of a Train Load of Cattle



Yorkton and district a few years ago was famous for its finished, grass-fed export steers. There was no shipping point which exported from its ranches and stock farms more head of cattle than Yorkton. Rather over eight thousand was the number shipped in one year during the zenith of the cattle era, and this number has yet to be exceeded by any other point in Western Canada, not excluding the ranching districts of Alberta.

Yorkton acquired this supremacy in the cattle industry primarily because of the rich, succulent wild grasses and hav which grow luxuriantly on the wild lands and because the men engaged in the raising of cattle spared no expense in purchasing pure bred bulls. Money was lavishly invested in pedigree and individual merit so that bunches of steers from some of the breeders were practically pure-bred Shorthorns.

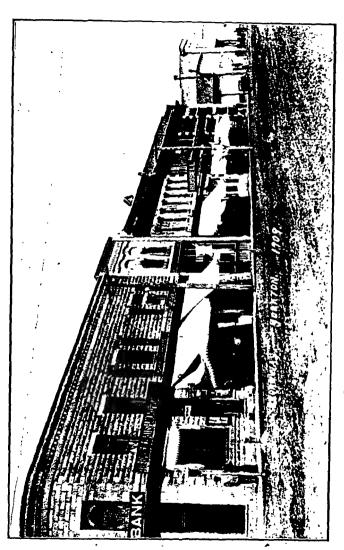
It has to be admitted that the cattle days of the district are a past glory. The steer had to yield its position of profit to the ever-advancing encroachments of barbed wire, until now it is only on the outside fringe of the district, where the chessboard lines of fencing are not so much in evidence, the old-time square, blocky three-year-old is met with. Oats at thirty cents a bushel and wheat at ninety are steadily forcing out of existence the export grass-fed steer.



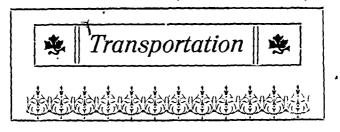
Residence of Jas. E. Peaker, Gladstone Avenue

Whilst these high prices are paid for cereals, stockraising must necessarily be overshadowed, as graingrowing shows quicker returns of both capital and labor invested. Stock raising, by means of stall feeding, is still remunerative from the fact that the average farmer of the district devotes most of his land to the growing of oats and there are tons upon tons of oat straw—the best feed when mixed with roots and crushed grain-which must be cleared out of the way and no better or more profitable disposition can be made of it than by turning into beef what otherwise might be consigned to the flames. It can easily be understood, therefore, that with wild land worth from \$10 to \$20 per acre it no longer pays to permit the steer to wander around and graze over land which may be said to be "paved with gold," so that the sphere of the steer is now to consume the by-product of the grain farm.

The summer agricultural show brings out splendid types of horseflesh, but in order to discover just what class of horses are in use in the district, a day during the early part of October on the main street of the town gives a far truer idea than the show. there is the everyday horse of the farmer continually coming and going as the ceaseless lines of wagons pass along heavily laden with grain for the elevators. And though all manner of beasts are pressed into service at this time of the year, the predominant types are Clydes, Shires and Percherons-massive, broadchested, strong limbed-and a large percentage of them are home bred, which indicates that the farmers of the district have ever been alive to the importation of the best of sires for the last quarter of a century. There is not a farmsteading where colts and fillies of the approved type cannot be found, and regarded by their owners as better assets than money in the bank. The home horse breeders have not been able to keep pace with the demand. Every spring sees carload after carload detrained here and the market absorbs them all at high prices—from \$400 to \$600 a teamand these are also the prices which the home breeder can ask and get for his horses.



A Scene on Broadway, Yorkton's Principal Business Street



Nothing plays such an important part in the growth and upbuilding of Western towns and cities as the all-important factor of transportation facilities. Had Yorkton in the early days been as fortunately situated in this respect as points on the Canadian Pacific Railway main line it would today rival Regina, Moose Jaw and Calgary in size and importance. But its location on the Manitoba and Northwestern branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway, of which for fifteen years it was the terminus, was the stumbling block to its larger growth.

All this, however, is now a story of the past. Porkton is no longer the terminus of the Manitoba and Northwestern branch, but is known throughout Canada as the largest and most prosperous town between Winnipeg and Saskatoon on what is no longer a branch line of railway but has become the Canadian Pacific Railway's main line between Winnipeg and Edmonton, a route that shortens the distance between these cities by several hours.

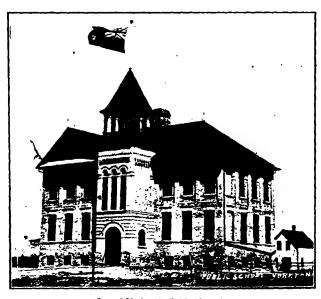
Recognizing its strategical position as a coming important wholesale distributing centre the Grand Trunk Pacific built its first branch line in Western Canada from Regina to Yorkton and is now extending this line northward, and will ultimately connect with the Government's Hudson Bay line.

The Canadian Northern Railway is not far behind its latest competitor in the Western field in seeking an entrance into Yorkton, as its most recently published maps show its Rossburn branch extended to and beyond Yorkton, connecting with its main line at Zealandia. This line will tap a country rich in various agricultural resources and serve an old settled and fertile district along almost its entire length.

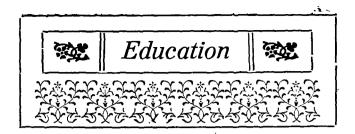
With the completion of these railways Yorkton will have railway facilities second to none, advantages which cannot be overlooked by wholesalers desirous of securing distributing warehouses at strategical points in Western Canada.







One of Yorkton's Public Schools



The educational advantages of Yorkton will in the near future be equal to those offered in any city in Saskatchewan. At the present time there are two public elementary schools employing nine teachers and a high school employing two teachers, both university graduates. The public school is among the most efficient in the Province, the instruction given being practical and thorough. The high school takes pupils forward to third, second and first class teachers' certificates, to junior and senior matriculation and, if required, to the agriculture and commercial courses outlined by the Department of Education. The high school will soon be replaced by a splendid new collegiate institute designed by Mr. La Chance, the well known architect of Saskatoon, and costing in the neighborhood when fully equipped of \$75,000. Though not as large as the collegiate institute buildings in the cities of the Province the Yorkton collegiate is unequalled as an exemplification of the most approved principles in school architecture. Nothing has been omitted that could conduce to the convenience, comfort and safety of teachers and students, while its purely architectural features will make it an object of beauty. It will stand in a block of five acres-a commanding site in the northern part of the Its erection will provide accommodation for the rapidly increasing number of students who come into Yorkton from the surrounding rural and village





Residence of J. T. Hall, Second Avenue

districts for their higher education. If the present rate of increase in the number of students keeps up it will be necessary to employ four teachers shortly for purposes of collegiate work and the courses then offered will be equal to those given in any city in the Province. It is to be noted that Yorkton has a larger area from which to draw students than any town or city in Saskatchewan. Its importance as an educational centre is absolutely assured. Its collegiate institute is a large factor in the development of the town and will continue to draw students and families in increasing numbers every year.

Owing to the generous grant provided by the Government for secondary education under The Secondary Education Act and The Supplementary Revenue Act no fees are charged to students attending the high schools and collegiate institutes of the Province. Secondary education is absolutely free. Laboratories, libraries and general equipment are also assisted by Government grants so that the instruction given may be as efficient as regulations and the provision of

material advantages can make it.

But, the settler in the rural district in the neighborhood of Yorkton also has distinct educational advantages. There are more schools in the area of which Yorkton is the educational centre than in any similar area of the Province. The father of a family who buys land in the district cannot get very far away from an efficient rural school. The rural schools are supported by taxes locally raised and by Government grants varying from \$200 to \$250 per annum per school. Taxes are low, Government grants generous.

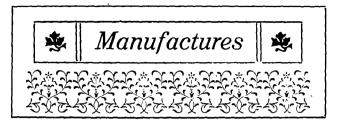
It must be remembered also that a trip of 200 miles from Yorkton brings the student to the University of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon and when a son or daughter has matriculated from Yorkton and has gone into the University he is not very far away from the parental home.

The completion of the collegiate institute will provide accommodation for a normal school which will be established in Yorkton during the winter of 1910-11, so that students may qualify as teachers without leaving the district.



Residences of Mesars. J. A. and W. J. Duncan, Fifth Avenue

Yorkton's New Cereal Mills in the Foreground. Levi Beck's Flour Mill and Elevator to the Left and Bull & Snell's Elevator to the Right



The principal manufactures of Yorkton today are the products of its machine works, flour mill of 150 barrels per day capacity, two large brickyards employing about 50 hands, large oatmeal mill with a capacity of 250 barrels per day, creamery, and sash and door factory. This latter industry, owing to the expansion of the town and surrounding district, is inadequate to meet the local requirements and there are thousands of dollars' worth of sashes, doors, etc.. being brought into the town monthly from outside points. Owing to the fact that we are in closer proximity to the raw material than any other point in Saskatchewan, being able to draw from the forests of the north and from the British Columbia mills as well as from Eastern Canada, there is a splendid opening here for the manufacturing of this class of goods on a large scale.

Another article, largely supplied from outside points, is flour. A large merchant mill here would undoubtedly have many advantages and would be in a position to command a large trade, as the competing railway lines north and south as well as east and west offer facilities enjoyed by very few points in the Province.

The question of building an abattoir here has been under discussion for some time. Owing to the large number of hogs and cattle raised in this district and shipped out, and the large quantities of bacon and ham shipped in, we feel that an industry of this kind would have a harvest time all the year round



### Yorkton's Hospital∞



One of the greatest advantages for the settler possessed by Yorkton and one that places it far in advance of hundreds of towns in Western Canada is its up-to-date, commodious and well equipped hospital, in which intending settlers can feel assured that they will be well taken care of physically.

The need for a hospital at Yorkton resulted in the erection of the present handsome building, with a capacity of 22 beds, which was opened on October 21, 1902, costing, together with grounds and equipment, the sum of \$14,000. A grant of \$3,500 towards its erection was received from the Lady Minto Cottage Hospital Fund, the balance being raised by voluntary subscription. In the following year an isolation building was erected, with a capacity of twelve beds.

The Victoria Hospital, as it is now known as, supplies a very large territory, it being the only hospital between Neepawa to the east and Saskatoon to the west, a distance of over four hundred miles. During the seven and one-half years it has been in operation 1,600 patients have received medical attendance within its walls, the number treated during 1909 being 257.

At its commencement a matron and two nurses comprised its staff. Today a matron, two graduate muses, four pupil nurses and a cook and orderly are required.

The work done at the Victoria Hospital is equal to that of any hospital in the West, the physicians and surgeons connected with the institution being well qualified for their work.

To meet the growing demands the board of directors—elected annually by the citizens to direct the affairs of the hospital—have now in course of erection a separate building as a home for the nurses. The portion of the general building they at present occupy will then be used for patients, thus materially increasing the hospital's accommodation and bringing the whole more up-to-date.—To the general building will be added a kitchen, dining-room and several bedrooms, at a cost of \$5,000.



Victoria Hospital



A View of Third Avenue, One of Yorkton's Finest Residential Streets, showing the residences of W. D. Dunlop, Dr. Ovens, Jos. H. Parker and W. R. Parsons

### Residential Advantages



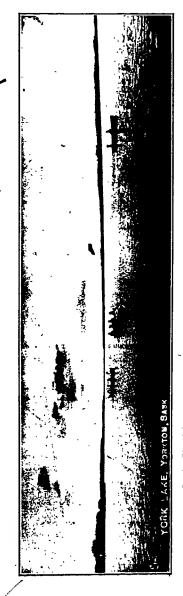
As a residential town Yorkton is unsurpassed anywhere in the Western Provinces.

The immediate vicinity is a park country, while to the south there extends a range of wooded hills; the surrounding country thus presenting a marked contrast to many other Western towns which are usually surrounded by bare, flat prairie.

The situation of the town is not only beautiful but healthy, and the installation of a system of waterworks and sewers and also a system of gas light enables the citizens of the town to enjoy all the advautages of city life without any of its inconveniences.

The summer resort for the town is York Lake, situated about three miles from the town.— This lake is six miles long and over a mile wide in many places, and surrounded as it is by wooded banks and gravelly beaches, it makes an ideal place for boating, bathing, swimming, fishing and other sports.

Many of the residents of the town spend the summer at the lake, and undoubtedly it will eventually become the popular playground of Eastern Saskatchewan.

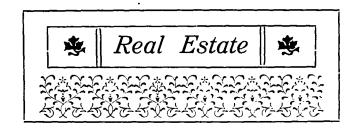


On the Placid Bosom of York Lake, The Fuvorite Summer Resort of Northeastern Saskatchewan

Along the Shore of York Lake, Yorkton's Beautiful Summer Resort



A Typical gamp at York Lake



The country tributary to Yorkton is generally rolling, with frequent groves of trees, giving it a park-like appearance and providing fuel for the settlers and shelter for the stock.

The soil consists of deep black loam with a clay subsoil and on account of the seasonable rains and the long summer days of bright sunshine, all kinds of vegetation grow luxuriantly.

Lands in this district, which were purchased seven or eight years ago at from four to six dollars per acre, have shown such magnificent results that the price of them today is not less than \$15,00 per acre.

This price does not necessarily mean cash, as only a very small amount of land is bought for cash. In most instances payments are arranged to cover a number of years. For instance, if a man buys a quarter of a section of railway or other land in winter or spring at \$10.00 per acre, making \$1,600.00 for the quarter section, his first payment is \$239.70 cash. The second year \$81.60 and nine payments of \$200 which includes both interest and principal.

As an illustration of the growth of the town of Yorkton several large purchases of both town and country real estate have been made recently by people from other parts of Canada and from the United Kingdom and good warehouse sites are obtainable at a very reasonable figure.

Although free homesteads in the vicinity of Yorkton are things of the past, vet land can be purchased at such a reasonable figure that when the settler begins to compare the ultimate cost of homesteading ten, fifteen or twenty miles from a small town or village (even though he obtains a free grant of 160 acres) he will find it infinitely more expensive than the cost of farming a quarter section for which his payments extend over ten years and which lies within a few miles of a town of the size and importance of Yorkton. In the latter case there are very many things that are advantageous to the settlers, such as the quick rise in the price of land following cultivation, the excellent roads, the ready market for both grain and produce, the older and thicker settlement surrounding him, and the proximity to a large town where practically everything he desires can be bought at the lowest market price. .



Yorkton Waterworks Pumping Station

#### Yorkton's Growth.



Yorkton was incorporated as a village in 1894, with a population of 215 and a tax roll of \$114.61. Six years later (1900) the village was incorporated as a town with a population of 600 and an assessment of \$321,976.00. In 1905 the population reached 1,200 and the assessment \$610,105.00. The growth during the past few years has been remarkable, the population now being 3,000 with an assessment of \$2,500,000.00.

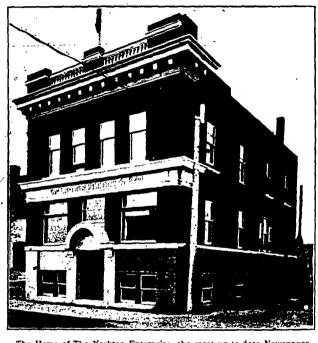
At present located in Yorkton there are two public schools, a collegiate institute, five churches, four chartered banks, a Queen Victoria Cottage Hospital, roller flour mill with a capacity of 200 barrels per day, cereal mill with a capacity of 150 barrels daily, eight elevators with 280,000 bushels capacity, foundry and machine shop, sash and door mill, two brick-yards with a daily capacity of 150,000, two weekly newspapers, excellent departmental stores and splendid private residences, Dominion Lands Office, Provincial Land Titles Office, Court House and jail. An excellently municipally controlled system of waterworks, sewerage and a well equipped fire department.

The Yorkton Northwest Electric Company has an excellent telephone system, covering a radius of 30 miles, with 291 subscribers. The rates are exceedingly low, the rate for private residences and rural

service is \$18.00 and business phones \$25.00 yearly. The Government is now extending its Provincial long distance line to Yorkton and before the end of the current year this town will have telephonic communication with all important Western Canadian points, in addition to the largest rural telephone system in the West.



Municipal Building in which the Town Offices, Council Chamber, Fire Hall and Public Hall are Located



The Home of The Yorkton Enterprise, the most up-to-date Newspaper Building of any Town in Western Canada

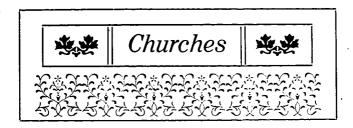
### . Yorkton's Wants . . .



- I. Electric light plant.
- H. Foundry.
- III. Brewery.
- IV. Steam laundry.
  - V. Pork packing plant.
- VI. Abattoir.
- VII. Dairy.
- VIII. Straw board factory.
  - IX. Linseed oil mill.
    - X. Tannery.
  - XI. Boot and shoe factory.
  - XII. Broom factory.
- XIII. Automobile assembling plant.
  - XIV. Twine factory.
  - XV. Skilled laborers (1) Masons (brick, stone); (2) Carpenters; (3) Painters (4) Decorators.
- XVI. Domestic help.
- XVII. Mills of various kinds—(1) Farm machinery; (2) Woollen mill; (3) Paper mills.
- XVIII. Wholesale businesses of all kinds.

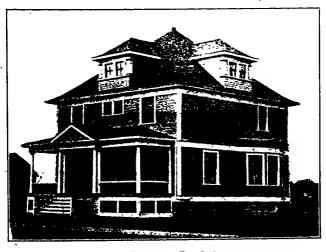


St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Recently Completed



The residents of Yorkton, while keenly alive to the best material and commercial interests of the town, have not forgotten to make provision for the moral and spiritual part of life, and the town can boast of having churches and religious services equal to those of some of the cities.

The places of worship are all well situated, on some of the choicest property in the town, are well adapted to meet the needs of the people and the pas-



Methodist Parsonage, Fourth Avenue



Methodist Church

tors are all men who, although they have caught the spirit of the West, have not lost by that, but have imbibed the spirit of a larger service so as to be able to minister to those things which bless and elevate life.

The Baptist Church is located on the corner of Smith Street and Third Avenue facing east. It was erected in 1900 and is a substantial solid brick structure. The present pastor of the congregation is Rev. P. R. Carey. Mr. Carey has been in the West nine years and was formerly pastor at Rapid City, Manitoba.

The Anglican Church is well situated on the beautiful triangle in the heart of the town and faces the angle of Broadway and Argyle Street. Last season the church, which was erected in 1900, was enlarged

to double its former size. The rector is Rev. F. C. Cornish, formerly of Wolseley, Sask.

The Methodist Church, a substantial brick building creeted in 1899, faces west on the corner of Smith Street and Fourth Avenue. It is well suited to the needs of a growing town. The Rev. II. A. Goodwin, a Maritime man who has been for a number of years in the West, is the pastor.

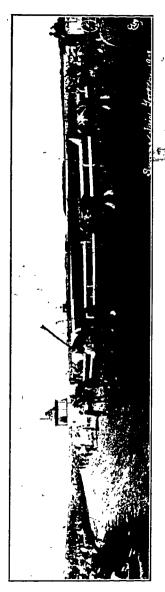
The Presbyterian Church is situated on the corner of Smith Street and Second Avenue and faces the south. It was built last year and is up to date in every respect. The Rev. H. D. Leitch is the pastor.

The Roman Catholic Church, now in course of erection by the Redemptorist Order, will be a structure second to none and will add to the beauty of Third Avenue upon which it is situated. The Rev. Father Delare has charge of the monastery and church.

It is not a good thing for the church to boast of her material wealth, yet we know that the temple was the best house in all the land and the church properties in Yorkton, beautifully situated, are worth at least \$130,000 and will compare very favorably with any of the best holdings in the town.



Catholic Church now being constructed by the Redemptorist Brothers



The Stock Parade at Yorkton's Exhibition Held Annually in July

## The Yorkton Exhibition

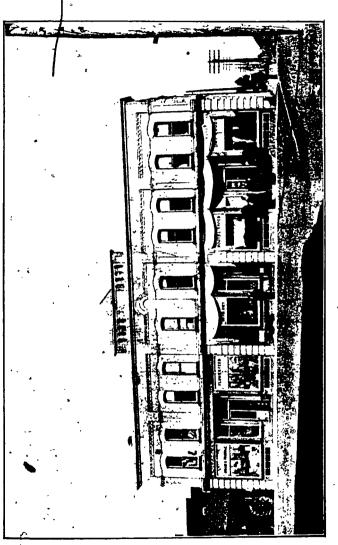
One of the institutions that residents of Yorkton and district feel proud of is the annual exhibition.

The Yorkton Agricultural Society was founded twenty-six years ago, and is one of the oldest in Western Canada. Ever since its inception the society has held successful fairs every year and has done great work in promoting agriculture, stock breeding, improved farming methods, etc. Over \$10,000.00 has been expended on the grounds and buildings in the last five years.

In the year 1909 the directors came to the concusion that as the work in connection with the annual fair had increased to such an extent it would be advisable to form an Exhibition Association and in December. 1909, the Yorkton Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition Association, Limited, was incorporated.

Mr. Wm. Simpson, who had been conjected with the agricultural society since its inception, was unanimously elected as the first president of the new Exhibition Board, and Mr. Thos. A. Waterfield was appointed secretary-manager.

The directors purpose increasing the grounds and buildings and will spend considerable money in making the Yorkton Exhibition one of the best in Western Canada.



Levi Beck's Business Block



Court House, where the Sittings of the Supreme and District Courts are held

#### . A Judicial Centre



The Judicial District of Yorkton comprises an area of eighty miles west from the Manitoba boundary and one hundred and twenty miles north and south.

Yorkton is situated about the centre of this district. The Local Registrar of the Supreme Court and Clerk of the District Court are stationed here. His Honor Judge T. C. Gordon, of the District Court, resides in Yorkton.

Two sittings of the Supreme Court and four of the District Court are held every year in the Court

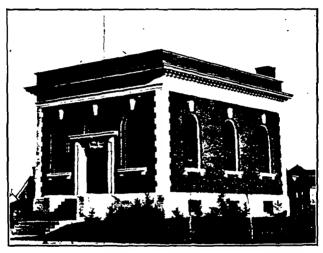


Residence of Wm. Simpson, Corner Smith Street and Fourth Avenue

House at Yorkton, while sittings of the District Court are held in various parts of the district.

The Registration Clerk for Chattel Mortgages, Bills of Sale, Lien Notes and Partnerships is in Yorkton,

The Lands Titles Office officials in their fireproof building look after the title papers for the lands in the district.

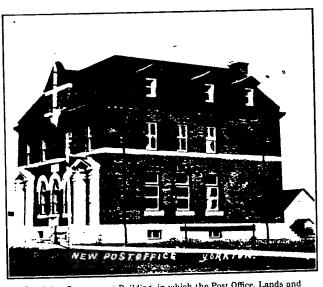


Land Titles Building, Erected by the Provincial Government

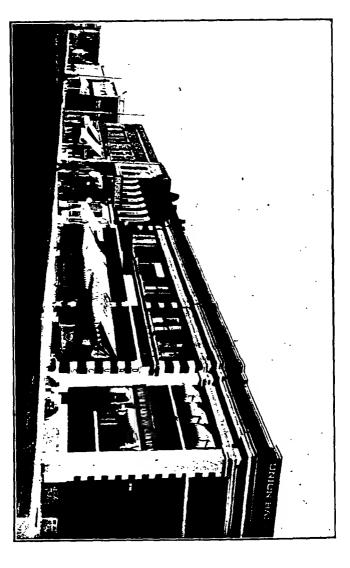
The Dominion Lands Office, which covers a much wider area than the other districts, is also situated here, where information can be had as to lands.

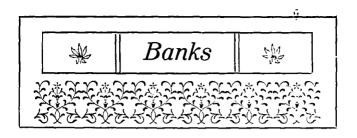
The enforcement of law and order is well looked after by the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, an inspector and detachment being stationed at Yorkton barracks, with subdivisions in various parts of the district.

With four legal firms in the town, Yorkton is in a position to supply all demands in this line.



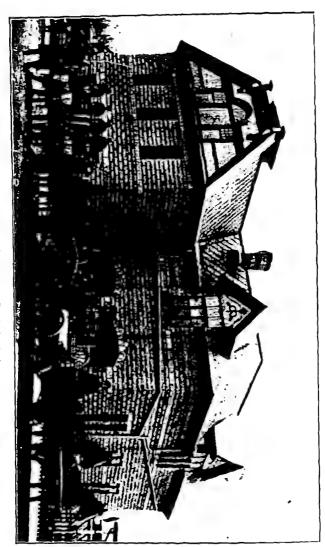
Dominion Government Building, in which the Post Office, Lands and Customs Offices are located



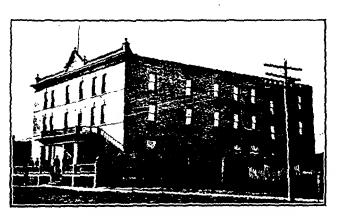


That the Yorkton district is very favorably regarded as a field of operation by the large financial institutions of Canada is borne out by the fact that branches of the Bank of British North America, the Canadian Bank of Commerce, the Bank of Toronto, and the Union Bank of Canada are established in Yorkton. These banks, with their world-wide facilities for transacting any kind of banking business, place Yorkton on a par with any town or city in Canada in this respect.

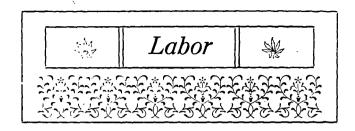
The steady growth in importance of the district is best exemplified by noting the manner in which these banks came in. The first bank was opened in December, 1907, when the private bank of V. II. Pickering & Co. was located at Yorkton. This was followed in July, 1899, by the Union Bank of Canada, which took over the business of Pickering & Co. In February, 1903, the Bank of British North America opened a branch, and in May, 1906, the Bank of Toronto commenced operations, and Yorkton's fourth branch bank, the Canadian Bank of Commerce, opened for business in November, 1909.



Yorkton's Fire Department, Ready for Action



Hotel Yorkton



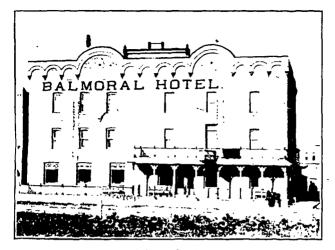
It is safe to assert that to the mechanic in almost every trade and to the laborer in every class no town in Western Canada today offers greater inducements in the way of steady employment and high wages than Yorkton.

To carry out the programme of building construction this year an army of tradesmen—masons, bricklayers, carpenters, plumbers, painters, etc., is required.

Among the principal contracts for public buildings, banking and business blocks, etc., to be completed this year may be mentioned: The new \$75,000.00 high school, new West End public school, C.P.R. passenger station costing \$12,000.00, equally handsome passenger station and yard buildings for G.T.P. Railway Company warchouse for Yorkton Forwarding and Storage Company enlargement of court buildings. Bank of Toronto and Bank of Commerce blocks, Massey-Harris Co.'s warehouse, etc.

In addition there are dozens of handsome residences to be erected throughout the town, many of which are now under way.

Wages for tradesmen average from 40c to 55c per hour. Municipal enterprises this year will provide employment for a large number of laborers. At least



Balmoral Hotel

100,000 square feet of cement sidewalks will be laid and the water and sewerage systems will be considerably extended.

Hundreds of laborers will be in demand for the grading and steel-laying on the Grand Trunk Pacific line from Melville to Yorkton, and from Yorkton to Canora, and also on the Canadian Northern line northeast of the town.

For labor on farms there is a plentiful demand—far in excess of the supply—and although good wages with board are offered, labor is very scarce, notwithstanding, and good hands can find ready and remunerative employment in the best farm homes.

There is always a great demand for domestic help of all classes both in town and country homes and experienced housemaids, cooks, housekeepers, laundresses and others can always rely on steady and highly remunerative employment.

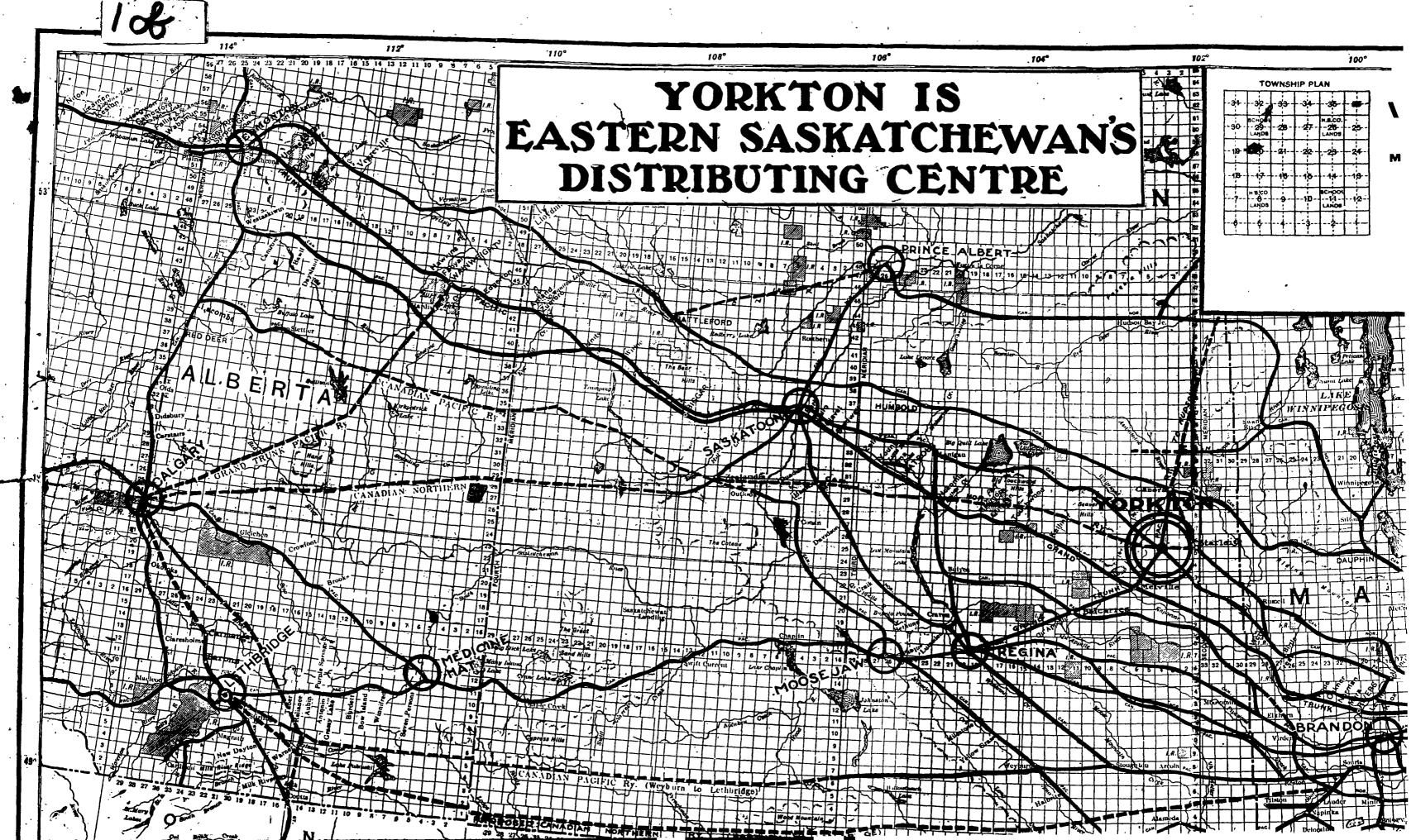


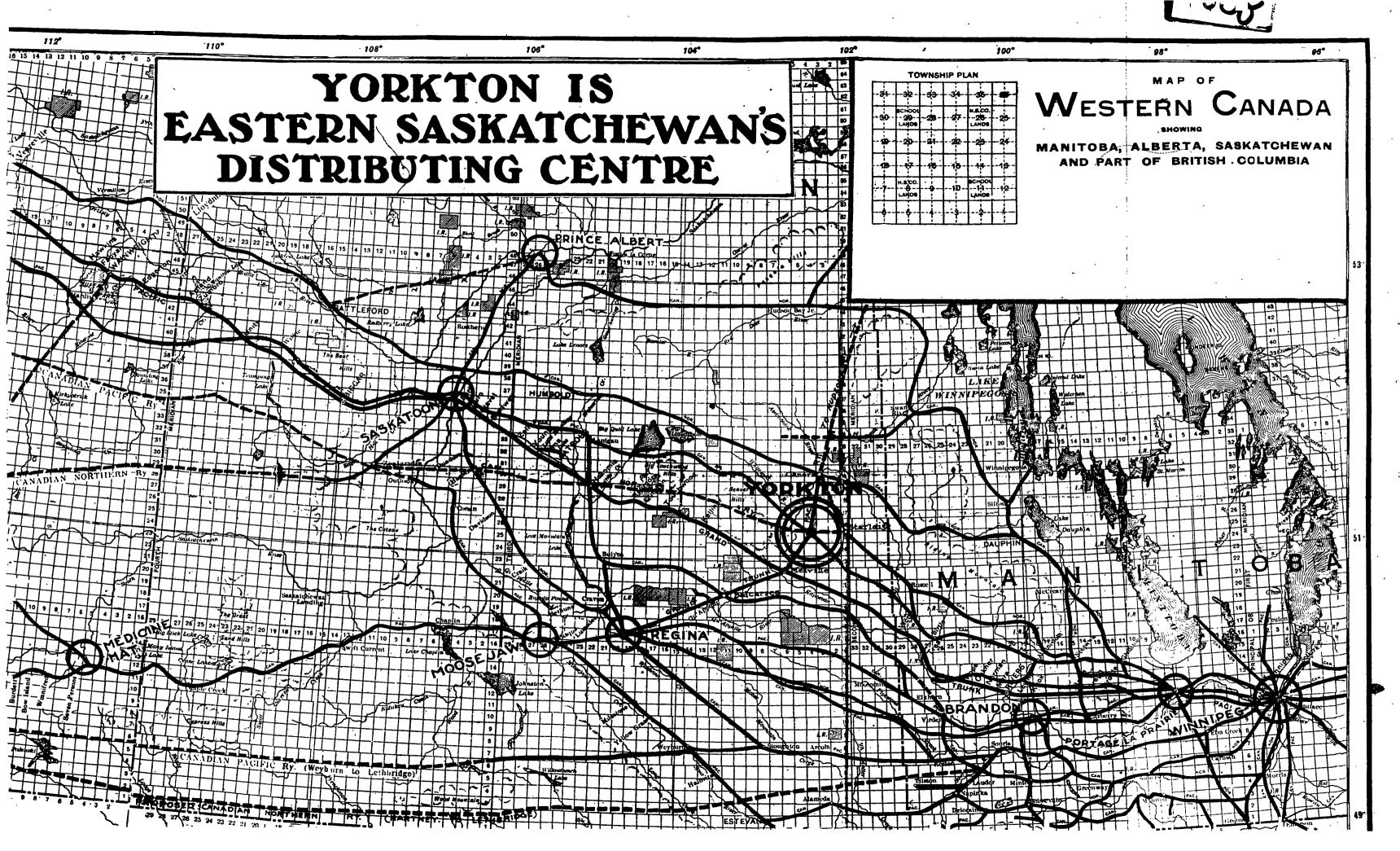


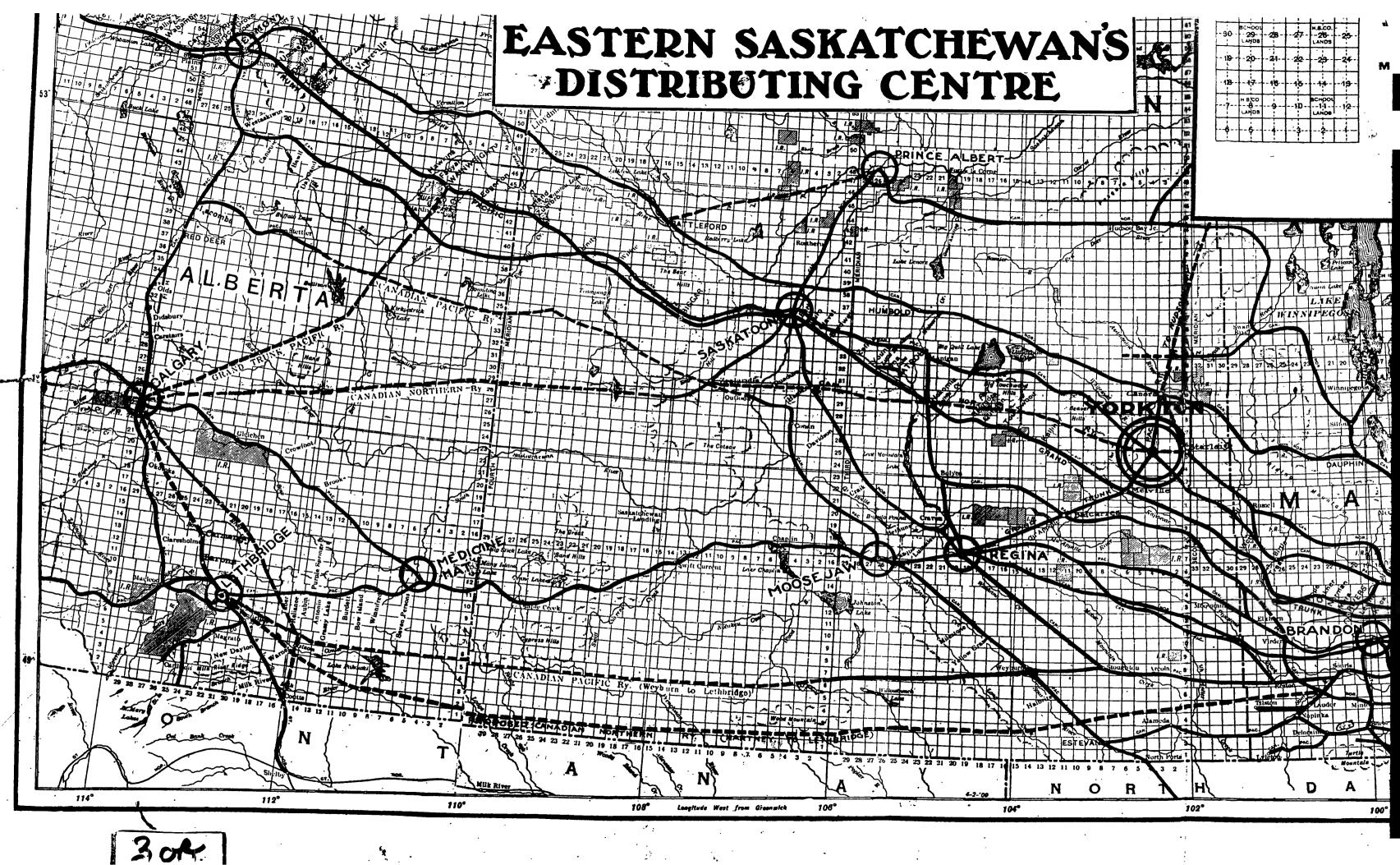
Residence of H. Christopherson, Second Avenue

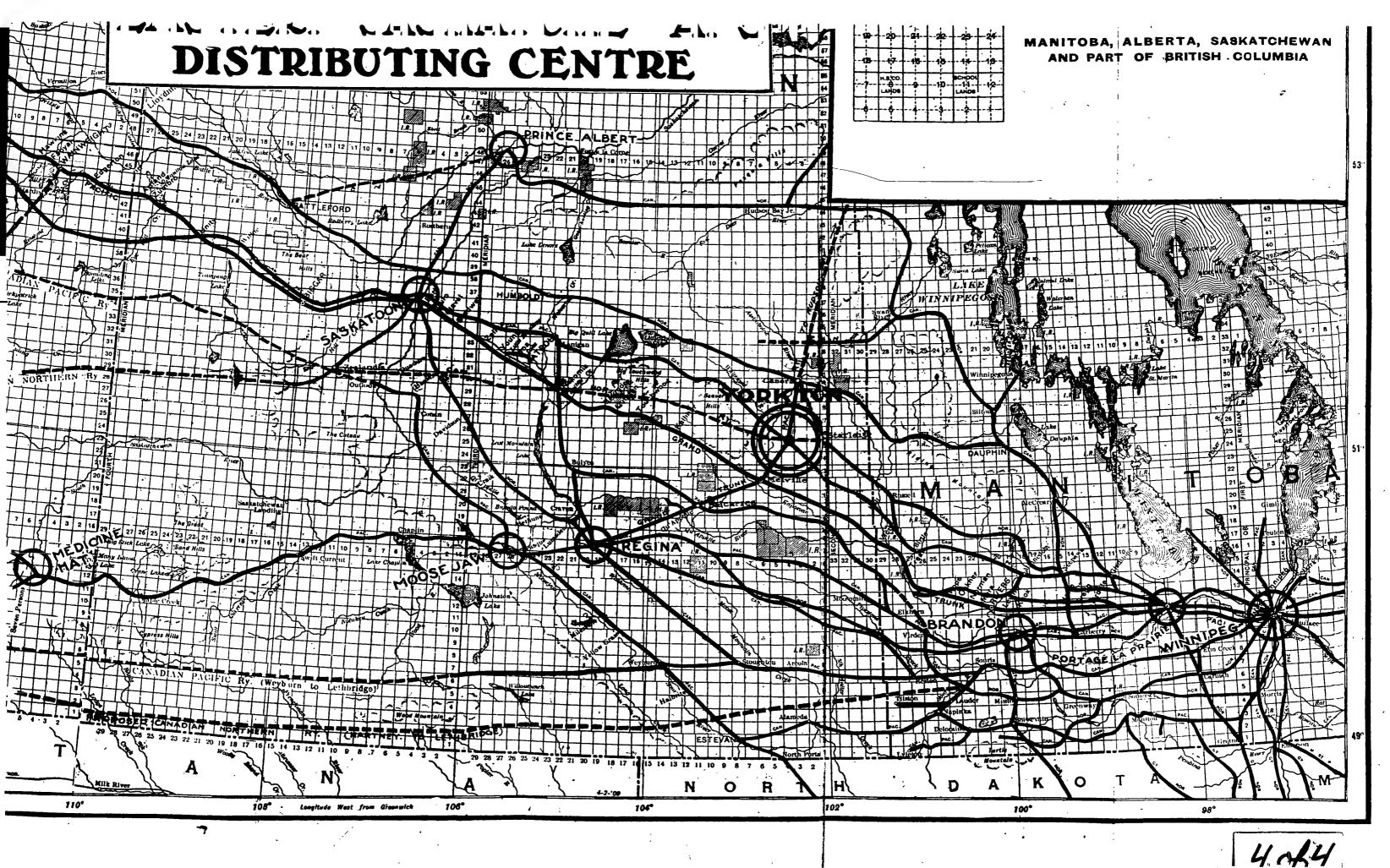


Residence of M. A. Eby, Third Avenue











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Eastern Saskatchewan's

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## Yorkton Enterprise

YORKTON S PIONEER PAPER

Is the representative paper of Eastern Saskatchewan, and covers the district thorough ly. Its correspondents at various points keep readers in touch with everything of importance. If you are interested in Yorkton or district the cheapest and best way to keep posted is to subscribe for it. .....

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#### Facts About the Town of

# **YORK TON**

and the

### Fertile Farming District

of Eastern Saskatchewan in which it is situated and of which it is the

Commercial, Educational, Judicial, Lands, Police and Railway Centre



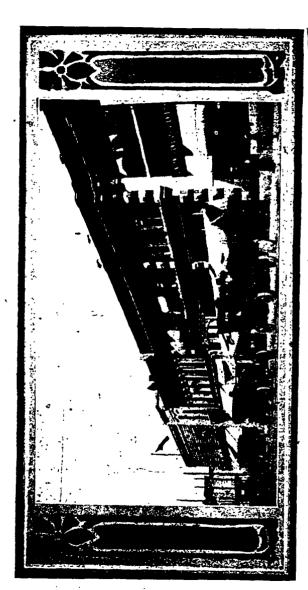
This Booklet is issued by the Yorkton District Board of Trade for the information of intending Settlers and Investors.

The information contained in it is authentic and reliable, having been very carefully compiled. Further particulars on all matters pertaining to Yorkton or District may be had at any time on application to the

Secretary Yorkton Board of Trade

Yorkton, Sask

Correspondence Solicited



A Section of Broadway, One of Yorkton's Business Streets.

## Yorkton the Metropois of Eastern Saskatchewan, is

situated at the junc-

tion of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Hudson Bay branch of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. two hundred and eighty miles north west of Winnipeg, and one hundred and fifty miles north east of the city of Regina, the capital city of the Province of Saskatchewan, and is the largest town between

Portage la Prairie and Saskatoon.

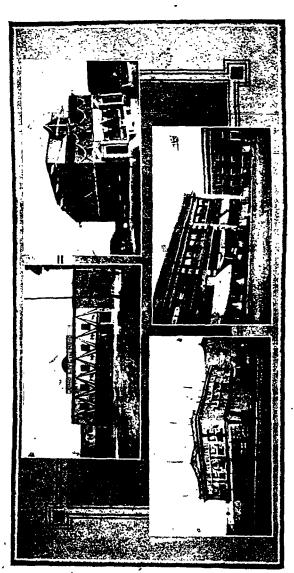
Western Canada can safely be divided into three divisions, the grain growing division, the stock raising division and the mining division. In looking at the map of the grain growing area of Western Canada, which can well be stated as the adjoining provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, you will find that Yorkton lies immodiately in the centre of these provinces, and is therefore well named the "Grain Centre of Western Canada." If you study the conditions of this part of Western Canada as tothe amount of rain fall, you will discover that the rain fall is greater in the northern portion of these provinces than in the southern portion. Therefore, "the Yorkton has been aptly styled. centre and the rain centre of Western Canada."

As might be expected other railroads have charters leading to and from this commercial centre the Canadian Northern Railway have secur d two charters, one leading from the cap tal to the Hudson Bay and another leading east and west which will ultimately be their Winnipeg-Calgary main line. Yorkton, therefore, enjoys the distinct on of being only centre in Western Canada through which two transcontinental railroads are building to the Hudson Bay, the future outlet of Western Canada to the

markets of the wor'd.

The Saskatchewan Central Rail oad has also seeured a Dominion charter for a line running directly north and south passing through Eastern Saskatchewan's commercial centre.

Yorkton has also been long recognized as the leading cattle raising centre of Western Canada, and



Vorkton Business Houses in Holiday Attire.

for several years enjoyed-the distinction of shipping more cattle than any one point in Western Canada, including the great stock raising districts in Alberta. But our ranchers, knowing the fertility of the soil gradually gave way to the plow, and Yorkton soon had the distinction of shipping more grain than any other point in Western Canada, which distinction it still maintains. We ship more than two million bushels each year from the granaries of our prosperous farmers.

Therefore, situated as we are in the centre of Eastern Saskatchewan's most fertile area, recognized as a leading point by all the transcontinental railroads producing more grain and more cattle than any other point in Western Canada, Yorkton is in a position to invite the wholesaler and manufacturer to come to our future city and make this their distributing centre.

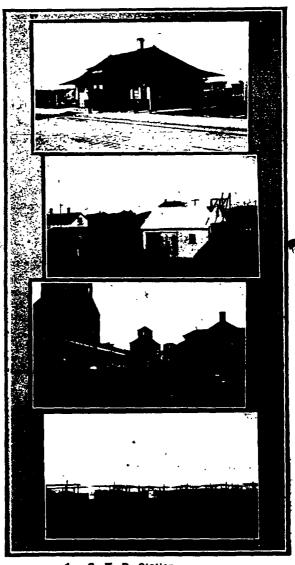
We are also in a position to invite the intending settler, probably we might say the intending settler who is not looking for a backwoods homestead, but who wishes to purchase land and rent land and therefore help to reap our usual abundant harvest, to come this way before seeking other places, which we believe have not the future that this town and district have.

The town has all modern improvements. from sewerage, waterworks and cement sidewalks to electric lights. With good churches and good schools, its clean streets and healthy surroundings there is no better place to make a home.

With our railroads pointing to the four corners of the earth, surrounded by the most fertile area in Western Canada, acknowledged by manufacturers as a centre of a large population of agricultural people, we have no hesitation in asking other manufacturers wishing a distributing centre to grasp the opportunity at once.

If you are a farmer and wish all the conveniences of a city, including higher education, come to Yorkton.





- 1. 2. 3.
- G. T. P. Station. Imperial Oil Warehouse.
- C. P. R. Station A Shipment of Steam Plows. 4.

### Transportation

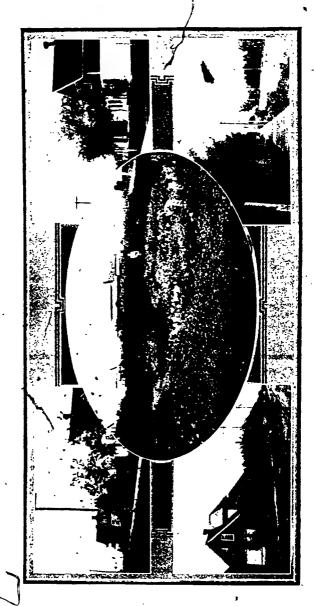
In this day of commercial activity and competition railway facilities are the one principal factor necessary to promote the growth and success of Western towns and cities. For fifteen years Yorkton was the terminus of the Manitoba and Northwestern branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway which alone was detrimental to its larger growth.

This, however, is a thing of the past, and today Yorkton is recognized as the commercial centre of Eastern Saskatchewan. It is also known throughout the Dominion of Canada as the largest and most progressive town between Winnipeg and Saskatoon on what is now the Canadian Pacific Railway's main line between Winnipeg and Edmonton, a route which shortens the distance between these cities by several hours. Also under this arrangement a night's journey is afforded to Winnipeg, both going and return trip, thereby saving business men considerable time.

Realizing Yorkton as the point offering the most advantages as a coming wholesale distributing centre, the Grand Trunk Pacific built its first branch road in Western Canada from Regina to Yorkton. This line runs northward and will eventually connect with the Government's Hudson Bay line.

Not to be outdone and equally desirous of obtaining a portion of the business at this important point, the Canadian Northern Railway will extend a branch from Rossburn to and beyond Yorkton connecting with its main line further west.

The building of these railways establish an era of important commercial activity, and the completion of same will offer to Yorkton unexcelled trans-



portation factities. Real zing these advantages distributing war houses for the large manufacturers of the East are being creeted at the re ent time.

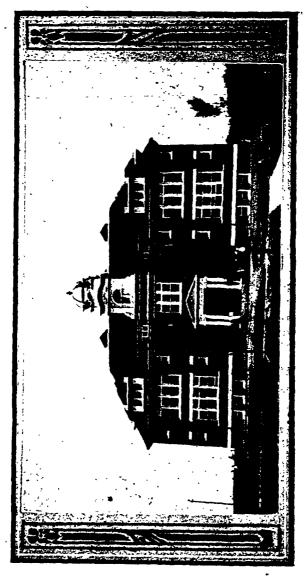
Yorkton also has an eighteen hour freight service from Winnipeg as well as a distributing freight tariff over the Canadian Fac fic Ra lway and Grand Trunk Pacific, both of which are conductive to the advancement of any ambitious town.

The object of this article is to indeate, for the benefit of those desiring to locate in this Western country, just what Yorkton's advantages are in the way of transportation tacilates, as we feel that Yorkton is destined to occupy a pre-eminent place as a wholesale distributing centre.





Reaping the Golden Grain.



### Education

As we in the present look back upon the preceding ages and review the changes and interpret the moulding influences of life, so the historian of the future will look upon this century and seek to find the keynote of its progress. And one feature which will stand out in prominence will be the principle of democracy as it has now, by revolutionary changes or again by the slow processes of reform, worked its way into and become an essential part of our institutional life. But in none other of the institutions of man has it attained a more marked relationship than in that of the modern school.

Municipal bodies of today consider it their duty to further the interest of that important member of the body politic, designated by the name Public and Secondary School. To draw out the latent abilities of the youthful mind, to equip the individual take his place as a member of the social organism, to train the imagination of youth and develop it in proper channels of service to the community large—such must ever meet with the approval those who guide and guard a city's life. To instil into the mind of man an appreciation of the literary and aesthetic environment of the past, that it may be to him not only a pleasant reaction, but also a moulding influence towards making of him a citizen, more sympathic in relation to the broader interests of life-such is the problem of the modern school.

The Province of Saskatchewan, although of but a few years standing as a province, has placed in the forefront the organization of a thorough elementary school system to meet the practical requirements, such as reading, writing and arithmetic,



and also a secondary school system with its varied curriculum of studies in science, mathematics, history and languages. And there is no more promising features of western lief than the excellence of the school buildings, as modern in their equipment as they are in design.

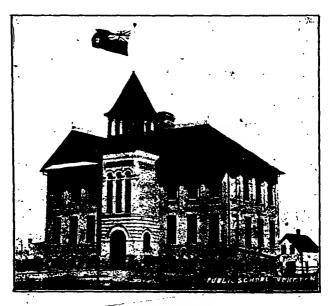
The town of Yorkton has two Public School buildings with a staff of ten qualified teachers and an enrollment of some three hundred and fifty pupils. The Central School is a six-roomed brick building, well heated and lighted, with waterworks connection and sewerage disposal. The Public School Board have likewise in view, within the near future, the erection of a new eight-roomed school building in order to better serve the interests of the western section of the town.

Last year saw the erection of the new Collegiate at a cost of \$70,000. This building can take its place with the best in Western Canada, from the point of architectural design, as also the requirements of High School work. No phase of educational life has been neglected in the plan of building. The physical development of the student is provided for in an ample gymnasium sufficiently large for indoor sports. An assembly hall, capable of seating three hundred people serves as a medium of expression for the literary activities of the student mind. Laboratories for physical science and chemistry remove these subjects from the deductive method of the class room to the inductive and experimental-the only sound basis of knowledge for the scientific mind. Technical training will in the near future be provided for in Domestic Science and Manual Training rooms planned for that purpose. The work is at present conducted by a staff of three teachers, each a university graduate, and holder of a High School certificate. Courses are offered for the General, Matriculation and Teachers' diplomas. including that of the First Class, with options in Science and Languages.

The first session of the district Normal School

was opened in Yorkton the last year with twentysix in attendance. Hence the student may now take his Third Class Normal training within the limits of his own town. The town of Yorkton has now stepped beyond the empirical stage in its educational development, and can justly take pride not only in the beauty of the buildings but likewise in the provision therein made for the education of its youth, and in the creditable standing hitherto attained by its schools.

Yorkton possesses excellent railway facilities for the student body. Its proximity to the Provincial University at Saskatoon, give it an assured place of prominence as the commercial and educational centre of North-eastern Saskatchewan.



One of Yorkton's Public Schools.

### Hospital

One of the greatest advantages for the settler. possessed by Yorkton, and one that places it far in advance of hundreds of towns in Western Canada, is its up-to-date commodious and well equipped hospital in which intending settlers can feel assured that they will be well taken care of physically.

The need for a hospital at Yorkton resulted in the erection of the present handsome building, with a capacity of 27 beds, which was opened on October. 21st, 1902, costing, together with grounds and equipment, the sum of \$14.000. A grant of \$3,500 towards its erection was received from the Lady Minto Cottage Hospital fund, the balance being raised by voluntary subscription. In the following



Victoria Hospital.

year an Isolation Building was erected with a capacity of 12 beds.

The Victor a Hospital, as it is now known as, serves a very large territory, it being the only hospital between Minnedosa to the east and Saskatoon to the west, a distance of 400 miles. During the eight and a half years it has been in operation, 1950 patients have received medical attendance within its walls. The number treated during 1910 being 316

At its commencement a matron and two nurses comprised its staff, while today, a matron, two graduate nurses five pupil nurses and a cook and orderly are required. The work done at the Victoria Hospital is equal to that of any hospital in the west. The Physicians and Surgeons connected with the inst tritions being well qualified for their work.

To meet the growing demands the Board of Directors, elected annually by the citizens to direct the affairs of the hospital, last year erected a separate building as a home for the nurses, the portion of the general building formerly occupied by them being now used for patients, thus materially increasing the Hospital accommodation and bringing the whole more up-to-date. There was also added to the general building a kitchen, dining room and several bed-rooms at a cost of over \$5,000.

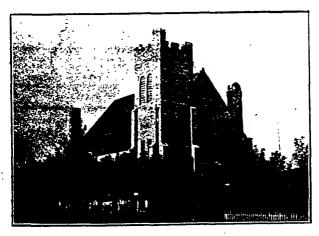


Judge Gordon's Residence.
—16→

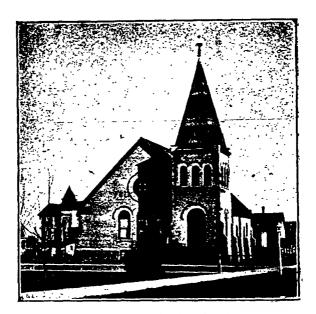
### Churches

While the commercial interests of Yorkton have been dveloping very rapidly and the town has been growing by leaps and bounds during the past three years because of the energy of the keen business men who are alive to the best material advancement of the town, the religious side of life has been well cared for by the pastors of the different churches.

These men are all earnest enthusiastic workers and have ever kept before them as their ideal, the building up a strong cause for righteousness in the town. They have great faith in the west and especially in Yorkton and are prominent in every good enterprise on behalf of the place. Their congregations have stood behind them in their undertakings for the church and have given very liberally



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



Yorkton Methodist Church

of their means for the support of the churches.

The church edifices are all in splendid locations, upon some of the best properties in town. Two of the congregations which have been worshipping in small buildings have found it necessary to build new churches one had to enlarge its present building and some of the other congregations will soon have to take steps in either direction.

The Baptist Church is well situated on the corner of Smith Street and Third Avenue facing east. It was erected a few years ago and is a substantial brick building. The Rev. Mr. Magill of Rochester, N.Y., U.S.A., is just taking charge of this growing congregation.

The Anglican Church is beautifully situated on the triangle in the heart of the town and faces the angle of Broadway and Argyle street. This church has recently been enlarged to twice its former size. The rector is Rev. F. C. Cornish, who is one of the early settlers of the district and is supported by a loyal people.

The Methodist Church, a substantial brick building faces west on the corner of Smith Street and Fourth Avenue. It was erected some years ago and is well suited to the needs of a growing town. A strong missionary spirit pervades its membership. The pastor is Rev. II. A. Goodwin, who has been in the west for some years.

The Presbyterian Church stands on the corner of Smith Street and Second Avenue and faces the south. This church was opened in 1910. It is a large commodious building erected along modern ideas with every facility for caring for the young life of a growing western town. The pastor is Rev. H. D. Leitch, an Ontario man, who with his congregation has caught the spirit of the west.

The Roman Catholic denomination erected a beautiful church in 1910. It is situated on Third Avenue facing west. This is a beautiful building and well adapted to the needs of the congregation. There is also a Monastery in connection with the church. The Rev. Father Delaere of the Redemptorist Order is in charge.

The German Baptist Church was organized last year. The Rev. Mr. Bladean, who has recently been called to superintend the German missionary work in Saskatchewan has been in charge of the work. The meetings are held in the Parish Hall on Fifth Avenue, but the erection of a fine church is contemplated in the near future.

The Hebrew congregation is in charge of Rabbi David Brickman. As yet there is no synagogue, but services are held occasionally. These are well attended.

The prospects are very bright for the establishment of a Lutheran College in the town. Several free sites of over twenty acres have been offered and the citizens are subscribing liber-

ally to the college. In all probability this college will be located here.

Yorkton is a centre from which a good deal of missionary work radiates and in connection with all the churches many important church gatherings are held here. The Presbyterian Synod of Saskatchewan is to meet in Yorkton in November, the first of the larger gatherings which will, doubtless meet here in future. The last few years in the great advancement in the church in our town and under our ellic ent pastors greater things are possible in the future.



Another View of Broadway



Fourth Avenue Looking North

### Summer Resort

Unlike most western towns and cities Yorkton is the fortunate possessor of one of the finest summer resorts in Western Canada—York Lake. body of water is only three m les from the townjust far enough for those who patronize it to enjoy its advantages as a place of recreation and at the same time give their business affairs in town daily attention if they so desire. It is over six miles long and more than one mile wide in most places and is surrounded by high wooded banks, which furnish ideal spots for camping. Last season over fifty families from the town, and many of their friends from a distance summered at York Lake, in tent or cottage. A local cap talist is this year contemplating the erection of a number of pretty cottages to supply the ever increasing demand.

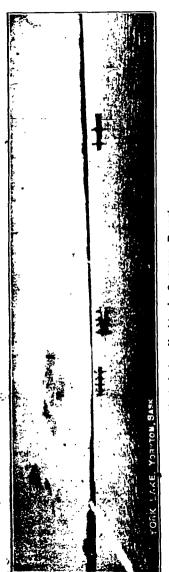
York Lake furnishes unrivalled facilities for aquatic sports, boating, motor boating, bathing, swimming and fishing. Every summer a day is set apart by the town for aquatic sports, and so popular has this annual event become that it is now regarded as a fixture. Fishing is one of the most popular recreations, and as a resort for the angler York Lake is unrivalled. Pike or jackfish of all sizes abound, and it is now being arranged to stock the lake with

a number of other varieties.

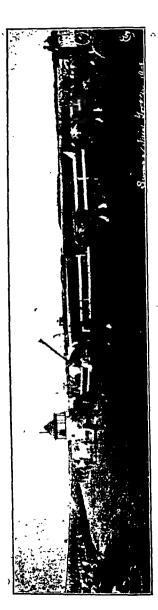
York Lake is connected by streams and rivers with a chain of lakes over thirty miles in length and motor boating and canoeing are therefore al-

ready popular recreations.

Plenty of fresh water, telephone connection and excellent roads from the town to the lake, a dancing pavilion already planned: these things added to the foregoing advantages will undoubtedly result in York Lake becoming the popular play ground of Eastern Saskatchewan.



On York Lake, Yorkton's Summer Resort



### Exhibition

The Yorkton Agricultural Society was founded twenty-six years ago, and is one of the oldest in Western Canada. Ever since its inception the society has held successful fairs ever year and has done great work in promoting agriculture, stock breeding, improved farming methods etc. Over \$10.000.00 has been expended on the grounds and buildings in the last five years.

In the year 1909 the directors came to the conclusion that as the work in connection with the annual fair had increased to such an extent it would be advisable to form an Exhibition Association and in December, 1909, the Yorkton Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition Association, Limited, was incorporated.

The directors purpose increasing the grounds and buildings and will spend considerable money in making the Yorkton Exhibition one of the best in Western Canada.





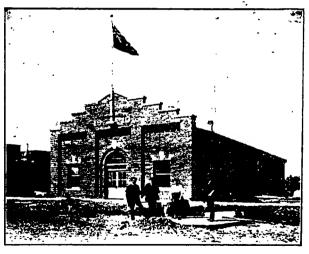
Cattle at the Fair and in the Stock Yards Prior to Shipment.

### Climate

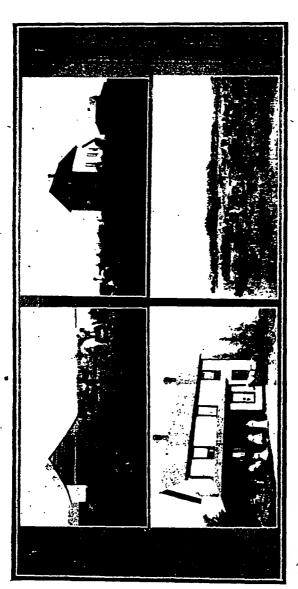
Taken from three months of three years, rainfall in April, May and June, average for year—7.87 inches.

Whole days sunshine in first six months of three years, average, January 19 days. February 19, March 21, May 21, June 20.

Temperature, three months, average, January 7 below zero. February 1 below zero, March 11 above zero, April 32 above zero, May 47 above zero, June 56 above zero.



Power House and Pumping Station



Typical Farm Homes, Barns and Herds.

### Dairying

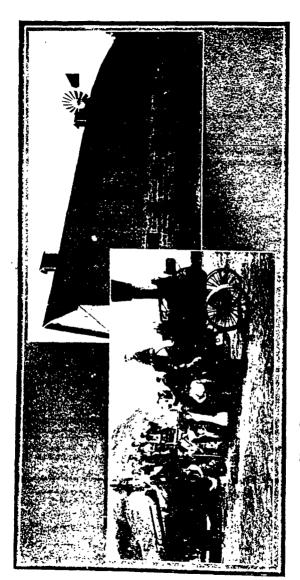
Dairying is the most economic branch of agriculture and no province in the Dominion of Canada offers greater opportunities for the successful carrying on of this industry than the Province of Saskatchewan, especially the northeastern portion, of which Yorkton is the centre.

With its broad rolling prairies which give perfect natural drainage, its clear springs of water which feed the numberless lakes and rivulets, its great depth of loam necessary to produce the finest grasses and pea vine, and the clumps of trees scattered here and there, all combine to make the Yorkton district almost perfect for the successful carrying on of dairying in all its branches.

During the summer months from the middle of May till the end of October milch cows receive no other food than the prairie grasses from which they produce an abundant supply of rich milk equal in quantity and quality to the best products in the east where stall feeding is largely carried on.

This district is famous for the quality of oats it grows and finely ground oat chop with the natural prairie hay makes a highly nutritious food ration which is successfully used by those to carry on dairying during the winter months.

There are good markets on all sides with the city of Winnipeg to the east, the mining province of British Columbia to the west and the great lumbering industries to the north, the demand for dairy produce is greater at the present time than ever before.



Many Farmers Own Threshing Outfits and Barns Like These

#### Old Timer's Opinion

Yorkton, Sask., 22nd May, 1911.

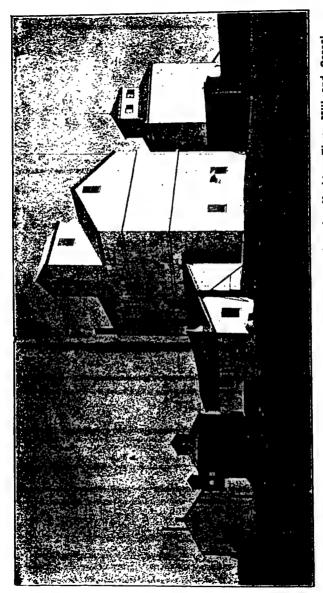
The President, Board of Trade, Yorkton, Sask.

Dear Sir,—After ten years' absence it has been a pleasure for me to visit your town and note the tremendous forward strides both it and the surrounding country have taken in that time. It is now nearly twenty years ago since first I commenced to ship cattle from Yorkton. In those days we would start with 14 cars, four loaded at Yorkton, and purchase the balance along the line, completing the train load at Langenburg, but now the move in solid trains direct from here.

Motoring through the country one cannot but be struck with the change that has taken place there. Where once the cattle roamed at will unhampered by fences, over thousands of acres of the finest grazing land in the west, there now are well-fenced highly cultivated farms, and prosperous looking farm houses.

Take your town too; when I first knew it there was little to it but North Front Street and from there several trails led through what is now your principal business section. Your population in those days was possibly 300, and from that and a small village you have grown to be an important town with a population. I understand of over 3,000, up-to-date municipal utilities, and all the conveniences of a city.

The question naturally arises in one's mind, what has worked this wonderful transformation and the answer is not hard to find. First and foremost the unswerving pluck, push, and energy of the people



Where Wheat Becomes Flour and Oats are Manufactured into Cereals-Yorkton Flour Mill and Cereal

who have "stayed with the game" some of them right from the start. Secondly the wonderful fertility of the soil in the district, which in the early days we thought was fit for grazing purposes only. Thirdly the great general development of the West with the advent of new transcontinental railways and their branch lines which has made itself felt in every portion of this great Western country.

Yorkton undoubtedly has a great future and to what extent it will be advanced or retarded rests in a large measure in the hands of her citizens. Your Board of Trade can also do great things towards advancing this future and I hope to see the day when Yorkton will take her rightful place among the cities of Saskatchewan. Believe me Sir,

Yours very truly,

H. A. MULLINS



A Farm Residence Near Yorkton.

Where Wheat Becomes Flour and Oats are Manufactured into Oereals-Yorkton Flour Mill and Cereal

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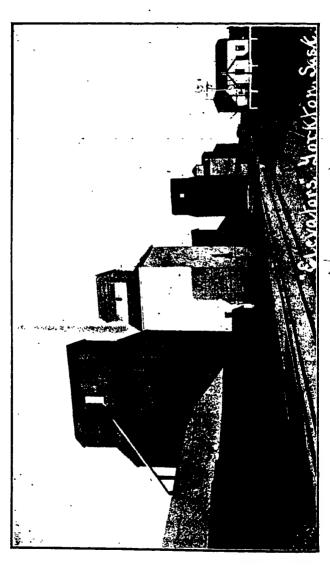
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A Farm Residence Near Yorkton.



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# Farming

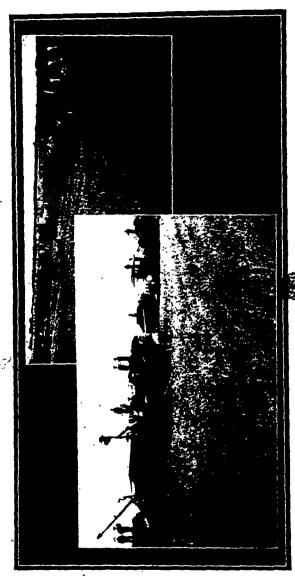
Farming in the Yorkton district today is very different from the system followed by the first settlers in the year 1882 and for a number of years following. In those days, settlers from Old Ontario and Great Britain, did, with the implements at their command, follow the modes of farming in vogue in the places from which they came, with results in almost all cases disastrous from a monetary view point.

Experience dearly bought but practical, taught those of the first settlers that the system of cultivation did not suit the soil and climatic conditions, with the results that summer fallowing became the practice, which, aided by implements better suited to the needs of the farmers and a greater breadth of cultivation, demonstrated the ability of the soil

to produce abundantly.

About the year 1887 the district began to be recognized as a cattle country and from that time on, to about 1899, large bands of cattle and horses were owned by ranchers and others. From the latter date the acreage under cultivation rapidly increased, and consequently those bands decreased, the district gradually changed from the largest cattle shipping point in the West to that of the largest grain shipping point on the continent, a premier distinction which it held until elevators were built at near stations on the C. P. R. and the Regina-Yorkton branch of the G. T. P.

From the days of the early settlers until the present, great changes have taken place. For instance, the writer for years travelled to Yorkton from a point 18 miles distant and did not require to go around a fence corner, passing only a few shacks on



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the way. Now to cover the distance between these two points, the trail is wholly between fenced fields, except about a mile. The country is not only fenced but is cultivated an up-to-date cultivation; graded roads with culverts and bridges, have replaced the prairie trail, modern farm houses of frame or brick have replaced the shacks, the ox and the horse teams are being replaced by the tractor for plowing and harvesting, and the motor car is quietly replacing the buggy and democrat.

Where once was the lonely shack, with its wee five or ten acre field is now the modern house, surrounded by great waving fields of wheat, oats and barley, the owners of which live in luxury under their own vines and fig trees, none daring to make

afraid.

In the whole of the fair Province of Saskatchewan there is not a district which can compare with the Yorkton district in yields of grain, grasses, roots and vegetables of all kinds. So much is this fact understood by people living here that no sooner is a farm offered for sale then it is secured by some person in the immediate neighborhood. Yields of 100 bushels of oats, 30 to 40 of wheat and 35 to 50 of barley, appeal strongly to the acquisitiveness of a neighbor who has learned to know a good thing when he sees it, and so \$25, \$30 and \$40 per acre is not considered too high in price to be paid for such productive land. These prices may seem high to outsiders but they are prices which have been paid over and over again by local farmers for the purpose of not only increasing their holdings but as investments. That such prices are paid by local farmers is, in the mind of the writer, the very best evidence of the value of our farms.

The time may not be far distant when exclusive grain growing will give place to mixed farming. When instead of shipping butter, poultry and bacon in from Winnipeg our farmers will produce their own and become exporters instead of importers of such products. The corn belt is moving north, alfalfa culture is engaging the attention of a number of thinking farmers. Combine the growing of corn

The state of the s

and alfalfa with other cultivated grasses, which are a sure crop either as hay or pasture, and the mixed farming problem is solved. May the time soon come when every half section will be the home of a farmer and his family. This is a country of big things, particularly big farms, which is not in the writer's mind best for the country, there are too few people in the townships.

Home seekers and investors come. We want people. We offer you and your families good land at prices which will in a year or two be considered cheap, and all the comforts obtainable in older communities.



Town Hall

## Real Estate

Real Estate—means an investment. Every foot of land in the townsite of Yorkton is rapidly increasing in value. Owing to the fact that Yorkton is the commercial centre of one of the largest and most fertile-districts in Canada and is the distributing centre for a large number of flourishing smaller towns and villages.

Yorkton is also the Medical, Judicial, Educational, Dental and Banking centre of Northeastern Sask-

atchewan.

Yorkton's populat on is estimated at 3.500 and its towns te covers only one and a half sections of land. This compares very favorably with other Western centures.

Town property can still be purchased at reasonable prices, never having been unduly inflated by

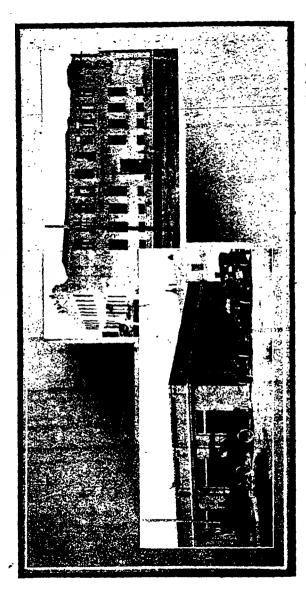
a fictitious boom.

Farm lands around Yorkton sell from \$15 to \$40 per acre and the average yield per acre sells for \$15 to \$25 according to yield and price.



New Enterprise Building.





Two New 1911 Buildings-International Harvester Co.'e. Warehouse and Yorkton Auto Co.'e Garage,

#### Yorkton's Growth

Yorkton was incorporated as a village in with a population of 215 and a tax roll or \$114.61. Six years later (1900) the village was incorporated as a town with a population of 600 and an assessment of \$321,976.00. In 1905 the population reached 1.200 and the assessment \$610,105.00. The growth during the past few years has been remarkable, the population now being 3,000 with an assessment **\$2**,000,000.

At present located in Yorkton there are two public schools, a collegiate institute, five churches. five chartered banks, a Hospital, three up-to-date hotels, headquarters of a graduate optician, roller mill with a capacity of 150 barrels daily, eight elevators with 280,000 bushels capacity, and machine shop, sash and door mill, two yards with a daily capacity of 150,000, two weekly newspapers, distributing warehouses. General Agency of the International Harvester Company with warehouse, excellent departmental stores and splendid private residences. Dominion Lands Office. Provincial Land Titles Office, Court House and iail. Municipally controlled system of electric light. waterworks, sewerage, a well equipped fire department.

The Yorkton Northwest Electric Company has a telephone system, covering a radius of 30 miles, with 300 subscribers. The rates are low, the rate. for private residences and rural service is \$18.00. and business phones \$25.00 yearly. The Government is now extending its Provincial long distance line to Yorkton and before the end of the current year this town will have telephonic communicationwith all important Western Canadian points, addition to the largest rural telephone system

the West.



Large all-modern residences Are Signs of a Town's Stability,

#### Residential Advantages

As a residential town Yorkton is unsurpassed anywhere in the Western Provinces.

The immediate vicinity is a park country, while to the south there extends a range of wooded hills; the surrounding country thus presenting a marked contrast to many other Western towns which are

usually surrounded by bare, flat prairie.

The situation of the town is not only beautiful but healthy, and the installation of municipal electric light, waterworks and sewerage systems, and also an acetylene gas plant enables the citizens of the town to enjoy all the advantages of city life without any of its inconveniences.

The summer resort for the town is York Lake,



Methodist Parsonage.

situated about three miles from the town. This lake is six miles long and over a mile wide in many places, and surrounded as it is by wooded banks and gravelly beaches, it makes an ideal place for boating, bathing swimming, fishing and other sports.

Many of the residents of the town spend the summer at the lake, and undoubtedly it will eventually become the popular playground of Eastern Saskatchewan.



Fifth Avenue Residences

### **Manufactures**

The principal manufacturers of Yorkton today are the products of its machine works, flour mill of 150 barrels per day capacity, two large brickyards employing about 50 hands, large oatmeal mill with a capacity of 250 barrels per day, creamery, and sash and door factory. This latter industry, owing to the expansion of the town and surrounding district. is inadequate to meet the local requirements there are thousands of dollars' worth of sashes. doors, etc., being brought into the town monthly from outside points. Owing to the fact that we are in closer proximity to the raw material than any other points in Saskatchewan, being able to draw from the forests of the north and from the British Columbia mills as well as from Eastern Canada. there is a splendid opening here for the manufacturing of this class of goods on a large scale.

Another article, largely supplied from outside points is flour. A large merchant mill here would undoubtedly have many advantages and would be in a position to command a large trade, as the competing railway lines north and south as well as east and west offer facilities enjoyed by very few points in the Province.

The question of building an abattoir here has been under discussion for some time. Owing to the large number of hogs and cattle raised in this district and shipped out, and the large quantities of bacon and ham shipped in, we feel that an industry of this kind would have a harvest time all the year round.

View of Broadway and Smith Street

#### Yorkton Wants

I. Foundry..

II. Pork packing plant.

III. Abattoir.

VI. Straw board factory.

V. Tannery:

VI. Boot and shoe factory.

VII. Broom factory.

VIII. Automobile assembling plant.

IX. Twine factory.

X. Skilled laborers—(1) Masons (brick-stone); (2) Carpenters; (3) Painters (4) Decorators.

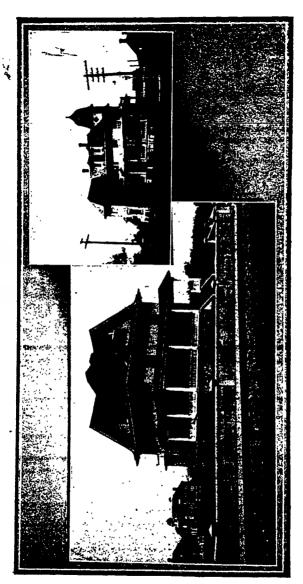
XI. Domestic help.

XII. Mills of various kinds—(1) Farm machinery; (2) Woollen Mill; (3) Paper Mills.

XIII. Wholesale businesses of all kinds.



Hotel Yorkton



Typical Yorkton Residences.

### Labor

It is safe to assert that to the mechanic in almost every trade and to the laborer in every class no town in Western Canada today offers greater inducements in the way of steady employment and high wages than Yorkton.

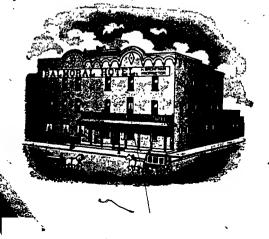
To carry out the annual programme of building construction an army of tradesmen—masons, bricklayers, carpenters, plumbers, painters, etc., is re-

quired.

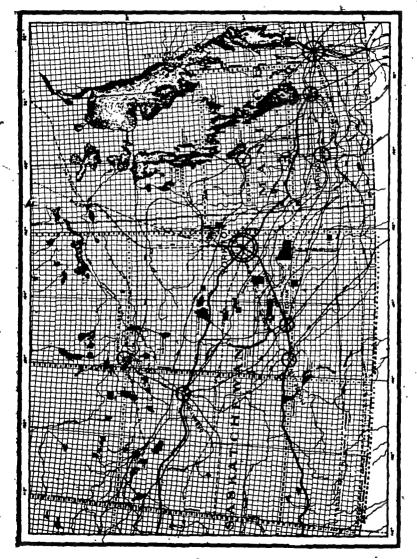
Wages for tradesmen average from 40c to 55c per hour. Municipal enterprises this year will provide employment for a large number of laborers.

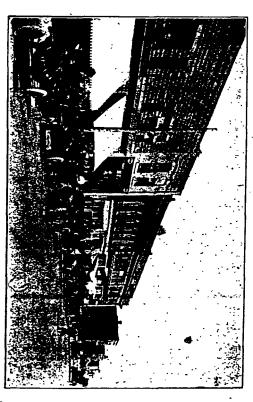
For labor on farms there is a plentiful demand—far in excess of the supply—and although good wages with board are offered, labor is very scarce, notwithstanding, and good hands can find ready and remunerative employment in the best farm homes.

There is always a great demand for domestic help of all classes both in town and country homes and experienced housemaids, cooks housekeepers, laundresses and others can always rely on steady and highly remunerative employment.

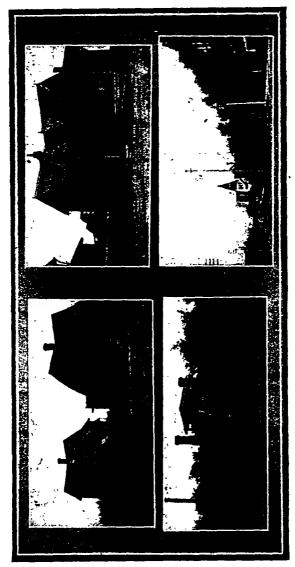


Yorkton's Location on the Map





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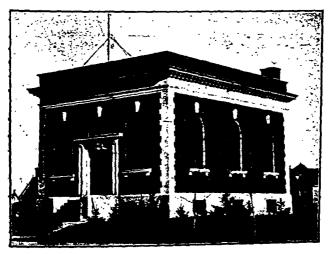
Smith Street Views and Sixth Avenue Residences.

### Judicial Centre

The Judical District of Yorkton extends west from the Manitoba boundary a distance of about one hundred miles and south from Township Forty, a distance of one hundred and twenty miles.

As in the older Provinces the "County Town" as such possessed undoubted advantages from a social, educational and business point of view, so in the new Provinces the "Judicial Centre" possesses like advantages and probably in a more marked degree by reason of the fact of being "new".

The Town of Yorkton the Judicial Centre is also the Geographical Centre of the district. The Court House, the offices of the Local Registrar of the Su-



Land Titles Building.

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preme Court the Clerk of the District Court and the Sheriff of the district are located here. The Judge of the District Court also resides at Yorkton.

Two sittings of the Supreme Court and four sittings of the District Court are held yearly at Yorkton.

The enforcement of law and order within the district is well looked after by the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, an inspector and detachment being stationed in the town of Yorkton with subdivisions at several points in the district. In this connection it is worthy of note that though Criminal Assizes are held only twice in the year within the Judicial-District of Yorkton, and notwithstanding the population, the number of criminal offences for trial is remarkably small—in some instances only one or two cases.

The office for registration of Chattel Mortgages, Bills of Sale, Lien Notes and Partnerships is also located in the town of Yorkton.

The Yorkton Land Registration District, having the same area as the Judicial District, has its registration office for Transfers, Mortgages and other instruments effecting land in the town of Yorkton.

The Dominion Lands District including an area somewhat larger than the Judicial District and Land Registration District, has its headquarters office and staff here and sub-agencies at convenient points within the district.

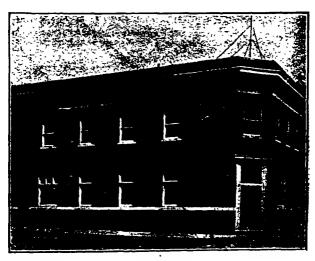
With the facilities thus afforded and a number of up-to-date law offices the legal business of the district can be carried on with the least possible delay.

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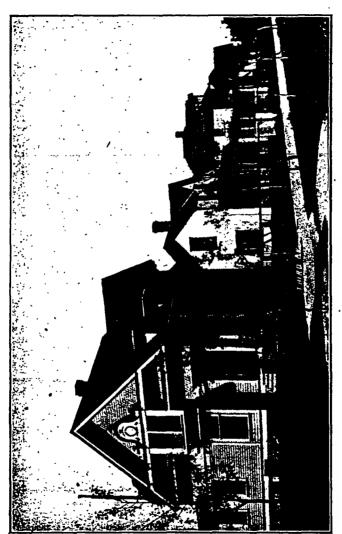
#### Banks

If it is true that "straws show the way the wind blows." It is equally true that the number of Banks at any one point indicate the prosperity, growth, and business importance of that community. Yorkton's importance as a business centre may therefore be fairly well guaged when one consid rs the fact that five of the largest chartered banks in Canada have established branches at this point, i. e. The Bank of British North America, The Canadian Bank of Commerce. The Northern Crown Bank Bank of Toronto, and The of Canada. The Union Bank of Canada. The two latter own and occupy thoroughly up-to-date offices here and it is more than likely that buildings will be erected by the two former within a short time.

These Banks have all been large contributing factors to the growth and prosperity of the town and district and incoming settlers will have the benefit of their ample facilities to transact banking business of any description in any part of the world.



New Bank of Toronto Building



Third Avenue looking North.

# Stock Raising

Yorkton and district a few years ago was famous for its finished, grass-fed export steers. There was no shipping point which exported from its ranches and stock farms more head of cattle than Yorkton. Rather over eight thousand was the number shipped in one year during the zenith of the cattle era, and this number has yet to be exceeded by any other point in Western Canada, not excluding the ranching districts of Alberta.

Yorkton acquired this supremacy in the cattle industry primarily because of the rich, succulent wild grasses and hay which grow luxuriantly on the wild lands and because the men engaged in the raising of cattle spared no expense in purchasing pure bred bulls. Money was lavishly invested in pedigree and individual merit so that bunches of steers from some of the breeders were practically pure-bred Shorthorns.

It has to be admitted that the cattle days of the district are a past glory. The steer had to yield its position of profit to the ever-advancing encroachments of barbed wire, until now it is only on the outside fringe of the district, where the chessboard lines of fencing are not so much in evidence, the old-time square, blocky three-year-old is met with. Oats at thirty cents a bushel and wheat at ninety are steadily forcing out of existence the export grass-fed steer.

While the high prices are paid for cereals stockraising must necessarily be overshadowed, as graingrowing shows quicker returns of both capital and labor invested. Stock raising, by means of stall feeding, is still remunerative from the fact that the average farmer of the district devotes most of his land to the growing of oats and there are tons upon tons of oat straw—the best feed when mixed with roots and crushed grain—which must be cleared out of the way and no better or more profitable disposition can be made of it than by turning into beef what otherwise might be consigned to the flames. It can easily be understood, therefore, that with wild land worth from \$10 to \$20 per acre it no longer pays to permit the steer to wander around and graze over land which may be said to be "paved with gold," so that the sphere of the steer is now to consume the by-product of the grain farm.

The summer agricultural show brings out splendid types of horseflesh, but in order to discover just what class of horses are in use in the district, a day during the early part of October on the main street of the town gives a far truer idea than show. Then there is the everyday horse of the farmer continually coming and going as the ceaseless lines of wagons pass along heavily laden with grain for the elevators. And though all manner of beasts are pressed into service at this time of the year, the predominant types are Clydes, Shires and Percherons-massive, broad-chested, strong limbed -and a large percentage of them are home bred, which indicates that the farmers of the district have ever been alive to the importation of the best sires for the last quarter of a century. not a farmsteading where colts and fillies of the approved type cannot be found, and regarded by their owners as better assets than money in the bank. The home horse breeders have not been able to keep pace with the demand. Every spring sees carload after carload detrained here and the market absorbs them all at high prices—from \$400 to \$600 a team -and these are also the prices which the home breeder can ask and get for his horses.

### Settlers

The first original settlement of this district was made under the auspices of the York Farmers' Colonization Company in 1882. The pioneers were Canadians of British extraction. Some of these earlier settlers became discouraged at the difficulties under which they labored, but the majority of them hung on with the grim tenacity despite discouragements and disappointments necessarily volved in pioneer work in the days before the coming of the railroad and are now enjoying the fruit. Two years following a party of their labors. sturdy Scotch from Orkney Island settled a few miles west of the present town site called the settlement after the land of their birth-Orkney Settlement-and are today numbered among the wealthiest farmers of the Yorkton district. In 1887 district about 12 miles north of the town was settled by a colony of frugal Germans who were content in many cases to take hold of farms, then rough looking, but today are among the finest wheat farms in the district with fine houses, barns and all modern conveniences. These earlier settlers had all to make the last stage of the journey either on foot or ox team, the earliest from Broadview, 70 miles south on the main line, the latter from Saltcoats. the terminus of the old Manitoba and Northwestern Railway for two years. In 1889 the rail was laid to Yorkton and it remained the terminus of road for some ten or twelve years. Among the earliest arrivals by rail were a party of Hungarians, who settled about ten miles south of the town, (also a fine wheat country). This settlement like the German one to the north has also made good, and the farmers with hardly an exception are in comfortable circumstances.

In summing up the class of settler of the Yorkton district the bulk of them are either British or British extraction with an odd settler from Northern Europe. Irrespective of nationality all willing to work have succeeded. A significant fact is that nine-tenths of land purchases are by res dent farmers intent upon increasing their land holdings. No greater evidence of prosperity could be cited.

Since settling in the Yorkton district over twenty years ago, practical gardeners have found both soil and climate admirably suited for the production of the more common kinds of vegetables, such as beets, carrots parsnips, onions, cabbage, cauliflower, potatoes, peas, beans, etc. Each year large quantities of table corn-not squaw corn-are grown which always ripens; tomates, both green and ripe; rons, to weigh over twelve pounds; marrow abundance; eucumbers, very prolific Cabbages have been grown that weighed over twenty pounds. Over four bushels of potatoes have been harvested from five pounds of tubers. But why say more. We have the goods to show to those who come to see-in season.



Court House and R. N. W. M. P. Barracks.

#### Farmers' Experiences

Yorkton, Sask., April 11th, 1911

"In publishing this letter I want to mention I feel that you have given me an opportunity to benefit my friends and my late fellow citizens of the U.S. A. and that I have never regretted the day that I left that country from the point of view of bettering my circumstances and bettering myself.

I came to Yorkton district in 1904, at which time 1 was possessed of \$1500.00 with which I purchased the S. W. 1-4 7-26-5 W. 2 for which I paid \$10.00 per acre, \$300.00 down and the balance of the money I utilized for buildings, buying stock, etc.

I am now possessed of three quarter sections of land which are almost paid for, with many horses,

cattle and a good amount of cultivation.

I came from Webster County, Iowa and I feel that I would just as soon live in this district as the district I came from as far as climate is concerned, and on the other hand, land being cheaper and the income from my Canadian farm is greater than it would be from the place I came from.

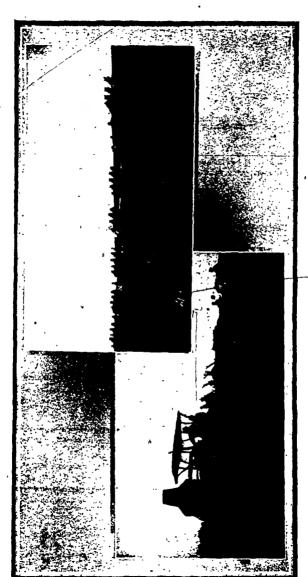
I have been farming practically all my life and I consider the prospects for this country were never brighter than at the present time for the price of land is extremely reasonable and the proximity to

markets in this d'strict is a great help.

I am writing this letter in good faith and will be pleased to answer any inquiries from intending settlers in order to show that I am prepared to back up the statements in this letter."—A. Robbins.

Yorkton, Sask., April 11th 1911

"In 1904 I came to the Yorkton district from Bowdle, South Dakota, and purchased one half sec-



Steam Plows are Gradually Supplanting the Horse

tion five miles from Yorkton for \$26 per acre.

My principal crop has been oats and wheat and taking in the six years, I have averaged 80 bushels to the acre of oats and 33 bushels to the acre of wheat and in some seasons of summer fallow I have had fields of oats averaging over 100 bushels to the acre.

In six years I consider that my net profit has been \$3000.00 per annum after paying all expenses and since then have sold this same half section for \$42 per acre.

The conditions in this country are ideal, both as regards climate and educational facilities. As regards the climate, the weather is excellent for growing crops, with seasonable rains and wonderful absence of early frost.

The only reason I have sold my farm is that I have made up my mind to retire and am now living in the Town of Yorkton and anyone who this letter reaches can inquire from me and I will give them the benefit of my experience in the Yorkton district, for I have always advised my friends in the States to come here as I think prospects for the future were never brighter for this district."—Jacob Miller.

Yorkton, Sask., April 8th, 1911 "I arrived in Yorkton December 1908 with \$25 and soon after homesteaded the N. W. 1-4 27-25-5, W. 2, eight miles west of Yorkton. I now have five horses, full line of farm implements, 50 acres of cultivated land and buildings worth \$1000.00 on my quarter section.

I previously lived in Iowa. U. S. A. where I had been farming and was induced to come to this country through advertisements of the C. P. R.

My principal crop is oats and I estimate the average yield at 70 bushels per acre. I estimate the present value of my quarter at \$25 per acre and my income per cultivated acre should amount to \$12.00 and the expenses should average \$4 or \$5 per acre.

I give you this information in all good faith and I am willing to back up by facts any statements which I make in this letter."—George Ward.

#### Saskatchewan

The Province of Saskatchewan has grown into prominence so rapidly and has become so important in the Dominion's development that the population of of the whole of the Northern Hemisphere is turning its attention to this land of wonderful fertility and productiveness—the land that is capable of raising wheat enough in one season to feel the entire British nation for two.

Final figures issued by the Department of Agriculture show the total value of agricultural products of the province for 1910 was over \$200,000,-600.

The total area in grain crop for 1910 was 6,898,505 acres; the average grain crop per farm for the

province, 84.9 acres.

These crop y elds place Saskatchewan first among the provinces of the Dominion and second among the States of the Union as a producer of wheat and oats. Minnesota with 94 000 000 bustels is the only state that produced more wheat in 1910 than did Saskatchewan. The following is the average: Minnesota, 16.5; Saskatchewan, 22.1.

The total acreage under oats in the province was 2.080.607 acres and the production thereon, 63,315,-295 bushels representing an average yield per acre

of. 30.40.

Under barley. 238,394 acres produced 5,859,018 bushels, an average per acre of 2458. 396,230 acres were devoted to flax, an increase over the previous year of 77.130, producing 3,044,138 bushels. This works out at 7.68 bushels per acre, or within a point of the estimated yield.

The average price on the farm for the wheat crop of all grades was 84c per bushel, which means that the wheat crop was worth \$75,780,600 to the pro-

ducers. The oat crop at an average price of 26c per bushel was worth \$16.460 976 and the total value on the farm for all grain, roots and fodder crops raised in Saskatchewan in 1910, together with that of milk and its products, was \$132 539,242.

The live st ck statistics show grat fying increases in the number of horses, sheep and poultry in the province. The figures are: Horses, 552 574, or an increase of 122,798 over 1909; sheep. 164 855, increase of 12,254; poultry, 4,626,118, an advance in numbers of 282,475. Decreases are recorded. in milch cows, other cattle and swine. The unusually large shipments of s'o kers, feeders and exporters to the eastern and British markets largely account for the decrease of 67.327 n cattle. The total number of cattle in 1910 was 527.305. The total numbor of milch cows was 204,745 or a decrease of 8.-703, and of swine 329,046, or a falling off in numbers of 23.339.

552,574 horses; valued at .... \$77,360,360.00 8.989,800.00 224,745 milch cows, valued at ..... 527,305 head of other cattle, valued at 11.892,640.00 947,916.00 164,855 sheep, valued at ..... 2.467.845.00 329.046 swine, valued at .... 4,626,118 poultry, valued at .... 1.619,141.30

This gives a total of agricultural assets in Province of Saskatchewan valued at \$235,816,944, owned by 81,303 farmers and grown on less than 7 per cent, of the estinated arable acreage in, the

province.

In harvesting this immense crop, the farmers of Saskatchewan received aid from 12.500 harvesters brought from the east on seven excursions and distributed throughout the Province. The Province received over 65 per cent. of the harvesters came west this year.

There are in the Province at the present 2.000,000 acres of new land and 1.875.000 acres summerfallow, together with a large area

ploughing ready for the crost of 1911.

The above figures, both of acreage yield and number of live stock, were compiled from reports 20,000 individual farmers, and the average yield was verified from the reports of several thousands of threshermen.

There are in the Province at the present time 848 grain elevators, having a total capacity of 26,000,

000 bushels.

That Saskatchewan would become the granary of the forld was a prophecy made by the most sanguage of the Province five years ago. The facts and figures of an authentic report recently compiled the Government of the Province prove that Saskatchewan is already the foremost grain growing Province of the Dominion and that only one State in the Union exceed her figures. It is also shown that the 1910 wheat crop of the Province equals nearly one-eighth of the entire wheat crop grown in the United States.

When it is considered that this yield is from only 7 per cent. of the total arable land of the Province, it is apparent that the prophecy above referred to will be fully realized.

It will be noted from the report that the new land prepared for crop during 1910 was 2.000,000 acres, or more than one-quarter of the land cropped in the same year. Figuring on the basis of the 1910 crop the right for 1911 should exceed 260,000,000 bushels.

Acres

Percentage of arable land cultivated. 7 p. c. Saskatchewan has good railway facilities, well

graded roads and highways.

A Public School System unexelled in any part of the world. Even the most rural sections have es tablished school districts.

An ideal climate, healthy and invigorating, suited to the production of the best grains, vegetables and live stock in the world.

Unlimited opportunities for progressive people.

Nothwithstanding all these startling figures, there are more acres in Saskatchewan set apart for public roads than yet under cultivation.

